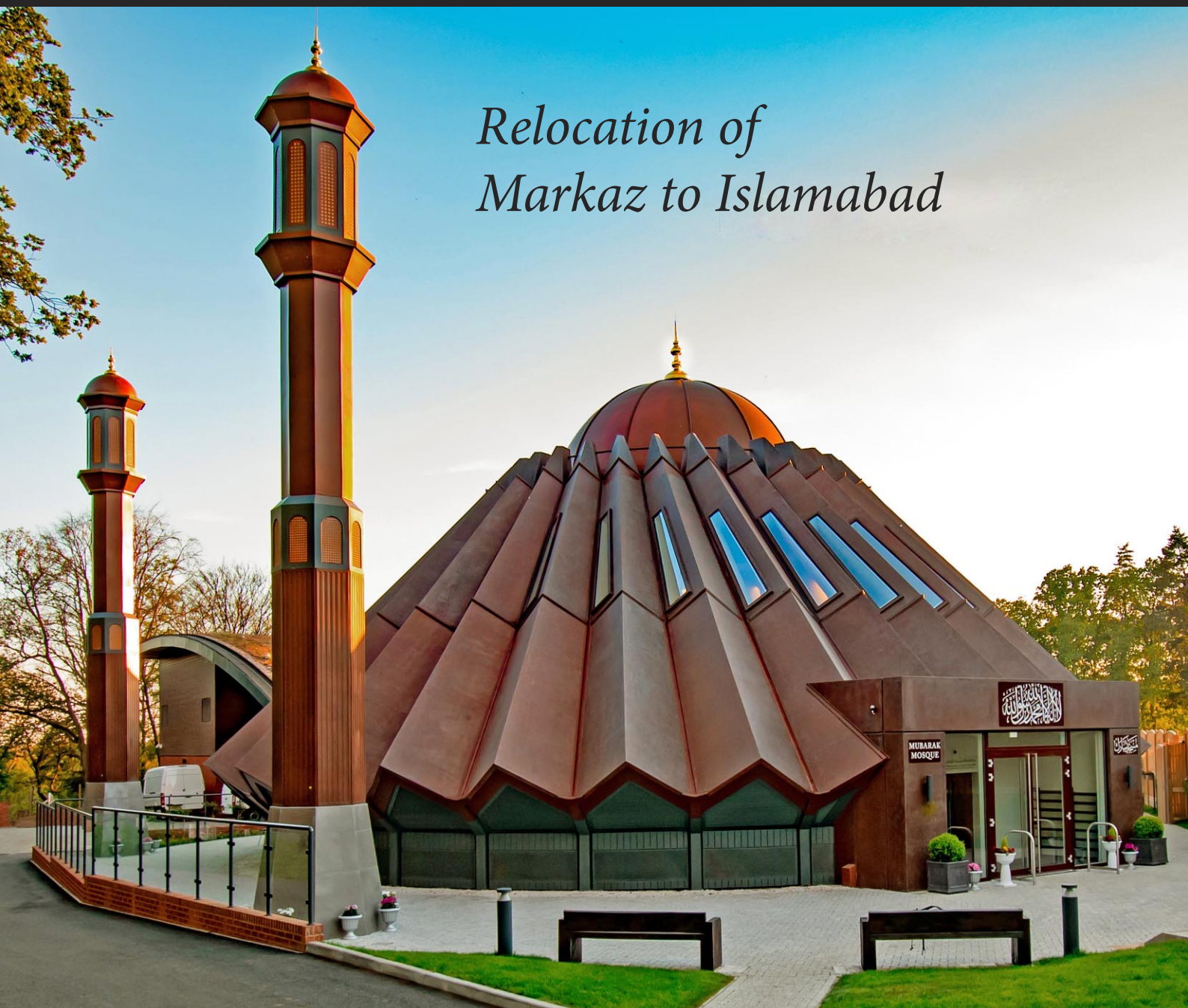


AHMADIYYA

BULLETIN

March -April 2019: (Aman/Shahadat)

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Relocation of Markaz to Islamabad

Friday Sermons

Summaries of recent Friday Sermons from Baitul Futuh

Ramadan Blessings

Sermon of summary on this blessed month

National Peace Symposium

Address by Huzoor Aqdas at the 16th Peace Symposium

Jamia Convocation

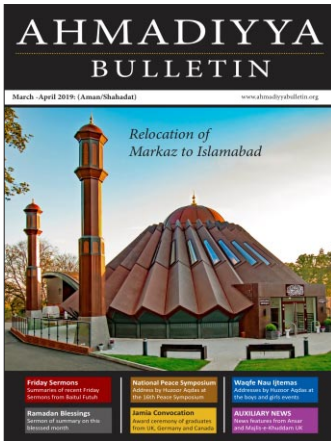
Award ceremony of graduates from UK, Germany and Canada

Waqfe Nau Ijtemas

Addresses by Huzoor Aqdas at the boys and girls events

AUXILIARY NEWS

News features from Ansar and Majlis-e-Khuddam UK



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Waqfe Nau Ijtemas for the girls and boys took place on the 6th and 7th April at Baitul Futuh. Highlight of each day was the inspiring address by Huzoor Aqdas.

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Quotation from the Holy Qur'an

O ye who believe! Seek help with patience and Prayer, surely, Allah is with the steadfast. And say not of those who are killed in the cause of Allah that they are dead; nay, they are living, only you perceive not. And We will try you with something of fear and hunger, and loss of wealth and lives, and fruits; but give glad tidings to the patient, who, when a misfortune overtakes them, say, 'Surely, to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return.'

(Al-Baqarah, 2:154-157)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ إِنَّ
اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِلَّذِينَ يُقْتَلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ
اللَّهِ أَمْوَاتٌ بَلْ أحيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ لَا تَشْعُرُونَ وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ
بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ
وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالشَّرَاتِ وَالْبَشْرِ الصَّابِرِينَ الَّذِينَ إِذَا
أَصَابَتْهُمْ مُصِيبَةٌ قَالُوا إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

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

Hazrat Ayesha (Allah be pleased with her) relates that she asked the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) about the plague and he told her that the plague is a torment with which Allah afflicts those He determines, but that He has made it a source of mercy for the believers. If a servant of Allah is afflicted with the plague and stays in his town in a spirit of steadfastness hoping for his due from Allah, realising that only that will happen to him which Allah has determined for him, he will surely have a reward equal to that of a martyr.

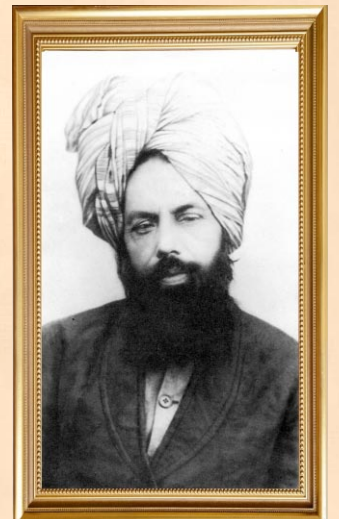
(Bukhari, from Gardens of Righteous, p. 14, no. 33).



Writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)

If you will adhere to truth and faith, angels will instruct you, heavenly comfort will descend upon you, you will be helped by the Holy Spirit, God will be with you at every step and no one will be able to overcome you. Await the grace of God steadfastly. Listen to abuse and keep silent. Endure being beaten and be steadfast. As far as possible do not resist evil, so that you may be accounted acceptable in heaven.

(Tazkaratush Shahadatain, quoted in The Renaissance of Islam, p.93)





FRIDAY SERMONS

Summaries of Friday Sermons delivered by Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad – Khalifatul Masih V

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

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Sermon: 11 January 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz*, and Surah Al-Fatihah, Huzoor stated, Hazrat Khallad Bin 'Amr Bin Jamu' Ansari participated at Badr along with his father Hazrat 'Amr Bin Jamu' and his brothers Hazrat Mu'az, Hazrat Abu Aiman and Hazrat Mu'awwaz.

On the occasion of Uhud his mother, Hazrat Hind carried his body with that of her husband and her brother on a camel after they were martyred. Hazrat Ayesha (Allah be pleased with her) left her home with some women of Medina in order to acquire information about the battle of Uhud. When she enquired from Hazrat Hind, she replied 'the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was fine and after him, all difficulties are easy', and recited the verse which translates:

'And Allah turned back the disbelievers in their rage; they gained no good. And Allah sufficed the believers in their fight. And Allah is Powerful, Mighty.'

She was taking the camel to Medina where the

martyred could be buried. However the camel would not proceed towards Medina but walk fast towards Uhud instead. At this, Hazrat Hind went to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) who said that the camel had been assigned. He asked,

"Did your husband say anything before he went to fight."

She replied,

"When Amr was about to set off for Uhud, he turned towards the Qibla and said 'O Allah! Do not bring me back to my family in a state of disgrace and grant me martyrdom.'"

Upon this, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, "this was the very reason the camel was not moving." He added,

"O Hind! Since the time of your brother's martyrdom, the angels have gathered around him waiting for instructions about his burial."

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) stayed there until the burial was completed and stated,

“O Hind! Amr bin Jumu, your son Khalad and your brother Abdullah have been gathered together in paradise.”

Hind requested,

“O Messenger of Allah! Please pray for me that may God Almighty also grant me their companionship.”

Hazrat Uqba bin Aamir was amongst those first six companions from Medinah who accepted Islam in Makkah and took the pledge of allegiance at Aqabah in the 11th year of prophethood. On departing after the pledge these six said,

“We have been greatly weakened by civil war, and there are many disagreements between us. We shall go to Yathrab and preach Islam to our brothers. How remarkable would it be that Allah the Exalted may gather us again through you. Then we shall be fit to assist you in every way.”

The following year five of them returned with another seven and pledged their allegiance. This was the second *Bai'at* of Aqabah. Its wording was,

‘We shall believe in one God, shall not associate partners with God, shall not steal, shall not commit adultery or fornication, shall abstain from murder, shall not defame anyone, and shall obey you in everything good.’

This *Bai'at* served as a foundation stone for Islam in Madinah. After this

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

‘If you remain true to this pledge in honesty and steadfastness then you shall receive paradise. But if you show weakness then your matter is with Allah the Exalted, for He shall do what He wills.’

Aqabah is situated between Makkah and Mina. The literal meaning of Aqabah is an elevated mountainous pass. Whilst departing from Makkah, these twelve Muslim converts requested for a teacher and the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent Muṣ'ab bin Umair (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), a very devout young man from the Abdud-Dar tribe along with them. Hazrat Uqba bin Aamir participated in all the battles alongside the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) including the battles of Badr, Uhud and Khandaq. He was noticeable in his armour on the day of Badr because of his green clothes. He was martyred in 12 Hijri during the battle of Yamama which took place during the Caliphate of Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him). Hazrat Uqba states,

“I came before the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) with my son who was very young. I said to the Prophet of Allah, ‘May my parents be sacrificed for your sake, please teach my son those prayers which he can recite before God and bless him.’” The Holy Prophet stated, “O child! Recite [arabic] which means ‘O Allah! I seek health from You in the state of being a believer and sincerely pray for compassion and pray for success after attaining virtue.”

May Allah Almighty continuously elevate the ranks of the Companions.

After this Huzoor mentioned the demise of a pioneering noble Ahmadi woman from America Sister Aaliya Shaheed Sahiba and led her funeral prayers after Juma.

Sermon: 18 January 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz*, and Surah Al-Fatihah, Huzoor stated Hazrat 'Amir Bin Fuhairah (Allāh be pleased with him) was among the first people to accept Islām and before the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) entered Bait Arqam. He used to graze Hazrat Abu Bakr's (Allāh be pleased with him) sheep at the time of migration to Medina. Being a slave he suffered much at the hands of the disbelievers. Later, Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allāh be pleased with him) purchased



him out of slavery and set him free. Hazrat 'Amir participated in the Battles of Badr and Uhud. He was martyred at Bair-e-Maunah at the age of 40.

Huzoor narrated the incidents relating to the Hijra and how Amir would graze the goats near the cave Thaur where the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) hid for 3 days, so they could get fresh milk for the night. Then 'Amir bin Fuhairah and a guide joined the two following a path towards the coast. The incident with Suraqah was also related and how in his pursuit of the party, it constantly stumbled and fell as soon as he got near the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He drew lot with his arrows repeatedly which showed an omen he disliked. He then decided not to attack them. When he next got close he said 'you are at peace' and met the Holy Prophet informing him there was a bounty for his head. Huzoor then related the incident of migration according to Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (Allāh be pleased with him).

In this Huzoor related how when the disbelievers reached the cave Thaur, Hazrat Abu Bakr became extremely worried. But the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said,

"Grieve not, for Allāh is with us."

Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) said,

"I fear not for my own life, for I am but a common man. My only fear, O Prophet of Allāh, is that if any harm comes to you then spirituality and religion would be wiped off the world."

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said,

"There is no need to worry. We are not alone here, the Third One is God with us."

Allāh caused the minds of the Makkans to be veiled and they started jesting with the tracker as to how someone could possibly be hiding in such an open place. So they returned to Makkah. After two days, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)'s small party which included Amir headed for Madinah. Before doing so the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) turned towards Makkah, the holy city where he had been born and ordained and where his forefathers had lived from the time of Hazrat Ismail (Allāh be pleased with him), and said with a sorrowful heart, *"O city of Mecca, you are dearer to me than every other place, but your people won't let me live here."* Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allāh be pleased with him) also said with deep sorrow that these people had forced their Prophet out of the city, so they would surely be ruined. Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud (Allāh be pleased with him) writes that Islām did not become victorious through the power of the sword, rather Islām triumphed through its superior teaching that penetrated into the hearts and brought about a moral revolution. One Companion relates that he became a Muslim only because of the following incident.

"I was staying as a guest with the people who had treacherously killed 70 Muslim Qaris. When the Muslims were attacked, some of them climbed a hill while others remained standing where they were. But since the enemy was stronger in numbers and arms, and the Muslims were without arms, they were killed one by one. In the end only one Companion

remained standing. His name was 'Amir bin Fuhairah. It took many of the enemies to bring him down and one of them thrust a spear into his chest. As the spear penetrated his chest, he uttered the words, "By the Lord of the Ka'bah, I have succeeded!" I was astonished at these words uttered by a man who was alone, far from his family and kin, facing such a great calamity, and a spear being thrust in his chest. I wondered if the person was insane. I then asked other people why he had uttered those words, and I was told that the Muslims are indeed insane, because when they die in the way of Allāh they believe that He is pleased with them and that they have succeeded. These words touched me deeply and I pledged to visit their centre and learn about their religion. Thereafter I went to Medina and accepted Islām."

Huzoor said that Allāh informed the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) about 'Amir's martyrdom while he was far away. These Companions were embodiment of devotion and they showed fidelity at every step. May Allāh continue to raise their spiritual status.

Sermon: 25 January 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE

After reciting the *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz*, and Surah Al-Fatihah, Huzoor continued his accounts of the companions who participated at Badr with Hazrat Tufail bin Harith. He belonged to the Quraish and also participated at Uhud and Khandaq. He passed away in the 32AH aged 70.

Hazrat Sulaim bin Amr Ansari belonged to the Banu Salama of the Khazraj. He performed the *Bai'at* along with 70 people at Aqabah. He participated at Badr and martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Sulaim bin Harith was from Banu Dinaar of the Khazraj. He participated at Badr and martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Sulaim bin Malhan participated at Badr and Uhud along with his brother Hazrat Haraam. Both were martyred during the incident of Bi'r-e-Ma'unah when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was persuaded by Aamir bin Ja'far to send 70 companions to teach his people Islam. It was a trap and all, including Sulaim and

Haraam bin Malhan were martyred.

The two had prayed,

'O Allah! We do not find anyone beside You, Who could convey our Salam to Your Prophet. Therefore, convey our Salam to him.'

When Gabriel informed the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) of this, he said may peace be on them. They fought bravely until they were martyred.

Hazrat Sulaim bin Qais *Ansari* was the son of Umme Sulaim bint Khalid and the brother of Khola bint Qais, wife of Hazrat Hamza. He participated in all battles, including Badr, Uhud and Khandaq. He passed away during the caliphate of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him).

Hazrat Thabit bin Tha'laba, son of Umme Unais bint Sa'ad, belonged to the tribe of Banu Uzra. His father was Tha'laba also called Al-Jaz' due to his courage, strength, determination and passion. Hazrat Thabit participated in the second pledge of initiation at Aqabah along with seventy Ansar. He participated at Badr, Uhud, Ditch, the Treaty of Hudaibiyyah, Khaibar, the conquest of Makkah and was martyred during the battle of Ta'if.

Hazrat Simak bin Sa'ad bin Tha'laba participated at Badr, with his brother, and at Uhud.

Hazrat Jabir bin Abdullah bin Riyab participated in all battles. He was among the first six *Ansar* to have accepted Islam in Makkah. While leaving, the six said that civil wars had made them very weak. It is possible that Allah may unite them through Islam and thus Islam started to spread.

Hazrat Munzir bin Amr bin Khunaith was from the Banu Sa'adah of the Khazraj. He participated at the *Bai'at* at Aqaba, at Badr and Uhud. Hazrat Munzir was literate even before Islam. He was martyred at Bi'r-e-Ma'unah. Gabriel reported to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that Hazrat Munzir embraced martyrdom while fighting. It is for this reason he was famous by the title of *'the one who embraced death'*.

Hazrat Ma'bid bin 'Ibad's father was 'Abaad bin Qusher. Hazrat Ma'bid belonged to the Banu Salam of the Khazraj. His title is Abu Humaisah. He participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Abi bin Abi Zaghba Ansari was the son of Sinnan bin Subaiy. He was from the Juheerah tribe.

He participated in all battles including Badr, Uhud, and Ditch. Hazrat Adiy bin Abi Raghba passed away during the Caliphate of Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him).

Hazrat Rabee' bin Iyaas belonged to the Banu Lawzaan of the Khazraj Ansar. He participated at Badr with his brothers Warqa and Amr. He also participated in the battle of Uhud.

Hazrat Umair bin Aamir belonged to the Khazraj. He participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Sa'ad bin Khaula, the freed slave of Hazrat Hatib bin Abi Balta' belonged to Banu Kalb. He participated at Badr and was martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Abu Sinaan bin Mihsan took part at Badr, Uhud and Ditch. He was martyred at the siege of Banu Quraizah.

Hazrat Qais bin Al-Sakan, known as Abu Zaid, belonged to the Banu Adiy of the Khazraj. He participated at Badr, Uhud and Ditch. He collected parchments of the Qur'an. In 8 AH the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent him and Amr bin Aas with a letter to the two sons of Jolandi – Ubaid and Ja'far in Oman, inviting them to Islam. They accepted and preached to others. Hazrat Qais was martyred in a battle with the Persians on the bridge over the Euphrates during the Caliphate of Hazrat Umar (Allah be pleased with him).

Abul Yasar Ka'ab bin Amr belonged to the Banu Salama tribe. On the day of Badr he captured Hazrat Abbas. Abul Yasar was slim and 20 years of age, whereas Hazrat Abbas was of heavy build. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) enquired how he had overcome Abbas. Abul Yasar replied an unknown person helped him and described that person's appearance. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) replied, *"Indeed a noble angel has assisted you."*

Abul Yasar followed the instructions of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) about treating the slaves well and said,

'I prefer greatly to give my slave an equal share of the wealth of this world, as opposed to losing my spiritual reward on the day of resurrection.'

These individuals had a very high status and were committed to seek His pleasure. indeed they would crave for it. Abul Yasar cancelled the debt by one of

his acquaintances who was facing hardship. This is another example of their fear of Allah. If he had any desire, it was to attain the pleasure of God. He passed away in 55 Hijri, during the reign of Ameer Muawiyah.

Sermon: 1 February 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE

Continuing his accounts of Companions who participated at Badr, Huzoor said, Hazrat Abu Huzaifah bin 'Utbah (Allāh be pleased with him) was a tall, handsome man with a beautiful countenance. He had accepted Islām before the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) came to Dar-e-Arqam. Hazrat Mirzā Bashir Ahmad writes that Abu Huzaifah belonged to Banu Umayyah and his father's name was 'Utbah bin Rabi'ah. He was among the chiefs of the Quraish. He was part of the two migrations to Abyssinia, accompanied by his wife Hazrat Sahlah bin Suhail. When the persecution of Muslims intensified, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) instructed Muslims to migrate to Abyssinia saying the King of Abyssinia was fair and just. At that time there was a powerful Christian monarchy in Abyssinia under Najashi which had commercial ties with Arabia.

Hazrat Abu Huzaifah also participated in the expedition of Hazrat 'Abdullah bin Jahsh, a prelude to Badr. Details are described in *Seerat Khatam-unNabiyyin*. During Badr, his father was among the disbelievers but the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) stopped him fighting his father and said let someone else do so. His father, uncle, brother and nephew were all killed at Badr, but he showed great forbearance and submitted to the Will of Allāh offering gratitude for the victory Allāh had granted.

Hazrat Ayesha (Allah be pleased with her) relates that when the corpses of the disbelievers of Badr were being thrown into a pit, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) noticed there were signs of unhappiness on the face of Hazrat Abu Huzaifah since his father was also among the dead. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) asked whether he was displeased at what was being done to his father's body. Hazrat Abu Huzaifah answered, O Prophet of Allāh, I have no doubt with regard to Allāh and the Prophet, but my father was a kind, truthful and wise

person. He had his opinions but they were based on what he thought was true, there was no ill-intention on his part. This is why I had wished that Allāh may guide him to Islām before his death, but this did not happen, and so he came to this tragic end, which saddened me. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) prayed for Hazrat Abu Huzaifah. Hadrat Abu Huzaifah participated in all battles. He was martyred at 53 or 54 at Yamama during the Khilāfat of Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him). Huzoor (May Allāh be his Helper) then spoke about a veteran servant of the Jamā'at, Professor Sa'ud Ahmad Khan Sahib, who passed away on 21st January 2019 and led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer..

Sermon: 8 February 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE

Huzoor continued with accounts of Companions who participated at Badr.

Hazrat Abu Mulail Bin Al-Az'ar belonged to the Aus. He participated at Badr and Uhud. According to one account, his brother Hazrat Abu Habib was with him in these battles.

Hazrat Anas Bin Mu'az Ansāri belonged to Banu Najjar clan of the Khazraj. He participated at Badr, Uhud and Khandaq. He died during the Khilāfat of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). In other accounts, he and his brother Hazrat Ubai were martyred at Bair-e-Maunah.

Hazrat Abu Shaikh Ubayy Bin Thabith belonged to Banu 'Adi clan of Khazraj. He was the brother of Hazrat Hassan and Aus bin Thābit. He participated at Badr, Uhud and was martyred at Bair-e-Maunah. According to some accounts, he was martyred at Uhud, but other accounts state that it was his brother Aus who was martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Abu Burdah Bin Nayyār was commonly known by his title Abu Burdah, but his actual name was Hani. He belonged to Baliy clan of Banu Qazā'a. He participated in the second Bai'at of Aqabah. He participated at Badr, Uhud and Khandaq. On the day of the conquest of Makkah, Hazrat Abu Burdah held the flag of Banu Hartiha. When he and Hazrat Abu 'Abs accepted Islām, they broke the idols of Banu Haritha tribe. Hazrat Abu Burdah accompanied Hazrat Ali (Allāh be pleased with him) in all his battles. He died during the early years of Amir Mu'awiyah's reign. Some place his death at 41 AH

while others at 42 or even 45 AH.

Hazrat As'ad bin Yazīd belonged to Banu Zuraik of Khazraj. He participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Tamim Bin Ya'ār belonged to the branch of Banu Jidarah of Khazraj. He participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Aus bin Thābit bin Munzir was the father of Hazrat Shaddad bin Aus. He belonged to Banu 'Amr bin Mālik bin Najjar. He participated in the second Bai'at at 'Aqaba and at Badr and martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Thābit bin Khansa belonged to Banu Ghanam bin 'Adi bin Najjar. He participated at Badr.

Hazrat Aus bin As-Sāmit was the brother of Hazrat 'Ubadah and participated at Badr and Uhud. He was also a poet. Later, he and Hazrat Shaddad went to live in Jerusalem. He died at Ramla in 34 AH at the age of 72.

Hazrat Arqam bin Abi Arqam belonged to Banu Makhzum. He was amongst the first to accept Islām. He owned a house outside Makkah near mountain Safa, which is famous in history as Dar-e-Arqam. This was where Hazrat 'Umar (Allāh be pleased with him) accepted Islām, after which the number of Muslims rose to 40. Hazrat Arqam participated at Badr and the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gave him a sword out of the spoils of war. Once he was appointed to collect Sadaqat. Hazrat Arqam was among the members of Hilful Fudul. His son relates that he passed away in 53 AH at the age of 83. In keeping with Hazrat Arqam's will, his funeral prayer was led by Hazrat Sa'ad bin Abi Waqas and was buried in Jannat-ulBaqi'.

Hazrat Basbas Bin 'Amr belonged to Banu Sā'idah bin Ka'ab of Khazraj. He participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Tha'labah Bin 'Amr belonged to Banu Najjar. He participated at Badr. He was among those who destroyed the idols of Banu Salma. He died during the Khilāfat of Hazrat 'Umar (Allāh be pleased with him) in the Battle of the Bridge. Some accounts suggest he died in Medina during the Khilāfat of Hazrat 'Uthman (Allāh be pleased with him).

Hazrat Tha'labah Bin Ghanamah belonged to the Banu Salamah tribe. He was among the 70 Companions who participated in the second Bai'at at Aqabah. He participated at Badr, Uhud and was martyred at Khandaq. According to another account, he was martyred at Khaybar.

Hazrat Jabir Bin Khalid belonged to the Banu Dinār and participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Harith Bin Nu’oman Umayyah belonged to the Aus. He participated at Badr and Uhud. He was the paternal uncle of Hazaraat ‘Abdullah bin Jubair and Khawwat bin Jubair.

Hazrat Harith Bin Anas belonged to the Banu ‘Abde Ashhal of Aus. He participated at Badr and martyred at Uhud. He was among the few companions who stood steadfast on the mountain pass alongside Hazrat Abdullah bin Jubair.

Hazrat Huraith bin Zaid belonged to the Banu Zaid of Khazraj tribe. He participated at Uhud.

Hazrat Harith bin As-Simma belonged to the Banu Najjar and was martyred at Bair-e-Maunah. He did not practically participate at Badr because he was ill and the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent him back to Medina, but, on account of his zeal and resolve, he was counted among those who had participated and was given share from the spoils of war. He fought at Uhud and was martyred at Bair-eMaunah.

Huzoor prayed that may Allāh continue to elevate the ranks of all the Companions who participated at Badr.

Sermon: 15 February 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE

Hazrat Khalid bin Qais belonged to Banu Bayazah of the Khazraj. His wife’s name was Umm-e-Rabi’ī and their son was Abdur Rahman. According to Ibn-e-Ishaq, he participated in the Second Bai’at of Aqabah. He participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Harith bin Khazamah belonged to the Khazraj.

Hazrat Khunais participated in the second migration to Abyssinia. He is counted among the first of the Muhajirs. He participated at Badr. Hazrat Hafsah was the widow of Hazrat Khunais before she married the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Seerat Khatam-un-Nabiyīn records that Hazrat Khunais became ill after Badr and died. According to another account, he was wounded at Uhud and succumbed to these injuries in Medina. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) led his funeral prayer and he was buried in Jannat-ul-Baqī’i next to Hazrat ‘Uthman bin Maz’un

Hazrat Harithah bin No’uman belonged to Banu

Najjar of the Khazraj. He participated at Badr, Uhud and Khandaq. Hazrat ‘Ayesha (Allāh be pleased with her) relates that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) held Hazrat Harithah in great esteem. He was very kind towards his mother and the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that everyone should follow his virtuous example. Hazrat Harithah became blind in his final years. He tied a rope leading from his place of prayer to the door of his house. He would keep a basket of dates with him, and whenever anyone needy came to his door, he would take some dates, reach the door with the help of the rope and give to the visitor. His family would ask why he went to all that trouble? He said because the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that helping the needy wards off an evil death. Hazrat ‘Ayesha (Allāh be pleased with her) relates that on the day of Hunain, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) asked who would keep guard at night. Hazrat Harithah stood up slowly, because he never hurried with anything. Seeing this, the Companions said that shyness has spoiled him and on this occasion he should have gotten up quickly. But the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, *“Do not say that shyness has spoiled him, rather it would be true to say that shyness has perfected him.”* He died during the rule of Amīr Mu’awiyah

Hazrat Bashir bin Sa’ad was the brother of Hazrat Simāk. He belonged to the Khazraj. He knew how to write prior to Islām. He was among the 70 Ansār who participated in the second Bai’at of Aqabah. In 7AH the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent 30 men for the Battle of Fadak. He fought valiantly but an enemy sword cut through his ankle rendering him unconscious. The enemy left him for dead. In the evening when he regained consciousness he came to Fadak and stayed at the house of a Jew for a few days before returning to Medina.

Likewise, in 7AH the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) sent him along with 300 men to Yumn and Jabar, where some people of Ghatafān had gathered along with ‘Uyainah bin Hisn Al-fazari and were conspiring against Islām. Hazrat Bashir fought and dispersed them. Hazrat No’uman bin Bashir says, my father gifted me some of his wealth. My mother Amrah bint Rawāhah said that

she would not rest until I requested the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to be a witness to this bestowal. When my father came for this purpose, he was asked, "Have you given the same to all of your children?" He responded: "No." The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, "Fear Allāh and treat your children fairly." My father took the gift back from me. This incident has also been cited in *Sahih Muslim*.

Regarding this kind of gift, Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud (Allāh be pleased with him) says that this does not apply to small, everyday things, but rather to valuable things so that children do not resent one another. Huzoor said, this is a matter related to *Fiqh* which everyone should keep in mind when distributing inheritance or bestowing gifts.

In 12 AH, Hazrat Bashir was martyred fighting under Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed at 'Ainut Tamr. Hazrat Bashir was the first to have pledged Bai'at at the hand of Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allāh be pleased with him). This was at the meeting place of Banu Khazraj in Medina and it was where the first gathering was held to elect a Khalīfa.

At the end of the sermon Huzoor requested the Jamā'at for prayers in the context of attacks against Ahmadī homes and shops in Bangladesh as a result of which some Ahmadīs were injured. Huzoor mentioned the sad demise of Siddiqua Begum Sahiba of Dunyapur, Pakistan. She was the mother of Laeeq Ahmad Mushtaq Sahib, Missionary InCharge of Surinam in South America. She was the wife of Sheikh Muzaffar Ahmad Sahib. Huzoor led her funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayer

Sermon: 22 February 2019

THE PROPHECY AND ITS FULFILMENT

Huzoor said that these days *Yaum-e-Musleh-e-Maud* is being commemorated. God foretold about a son who would possess special qualities. This prophecy was made on 20th February 1886. This son was born on 12th January 1889, who was named Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad and to whom God Almighty bestowed the mantle of Khilafat after the demise of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih I (Allah be pleased with him). This prophecy was about the birth of an extraordinary son who would lay the foundations to a spiritual revolution in the world.

Regarding this prophecy, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) explains,

"In this instance, by the grace and beneficence of God Almighty, and by virtue of the blessing of the Seal of the Prophets (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), that Benevolent God accepted this humble one's prayer, and promised to send a soul so holy, that its apparent and hidden blessings would spread all over the world."

(Tabligh-e-Risalat)

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) adds that he did not beseech for an ordinary soul but prayed for a sign. Allah responded giving glad tidings of a glorious son who would attain a long life, be extremely intelligent and possess grandeur, majesty and wealth. Nations would obtain blessings from him. He would be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge. He would be endowed with an extremely profound understanding of the Word of Allah, i.e. the Holy Qur'an. He would utilise his God-given understanding and would serve the Qur'an in such a magnificent manner that he would enlighten the world. He will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage; he will be *Aalime Kabab*, meaning such universal catastrophes would occur during his lifetime that it will torment the entire world. His fame will spread to the ends of the earth.

We are a witness to the fulfilment of universal catastrophes, such as the two World Wars as well as other calamities.

Regarding his education, after completing the recitation of the Qur'an, he enrolled for formal education. Pir Manzoor Muhammad, taught him Urdu. Maulvi Sher 'Ali Sahib taught him English. He himself states in great detail that he was a sickly child with several chronic ailments and severe problems with sight, due to trachoma. His eyes were painful with doctors worried that he would lose eyesight. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) started to specially pray and keep voluntary fasts. By Allah's grace, his eyesight improved but he remained partially sighted in one eye. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) told his teachers to educate him as best they could. However, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) stressed that he should study the translation

of the Qur'an and Bukhari from Hazrat Maulvi Nur-ud-Din and he should also study medicine.

Despite several school reports showing unsatisfactory progress, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) did not force his son to study and remained supportive. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih I (Allah be pleased with him) was also very supportive and said to Hazrat Sahibzada Mirza Mahmood Ahmad Sahib,

"Mian! Your health is not well enough that you can study yourself. Visit me and I will teach you in a way which you would only need to listen."

His worldly education was effectively next to nothing and he was taught by God. His speeches, addresses, writings and exegesis of the Qur'an are a testimony to this. This is a great sign of the truthfulness of this prophecy.

Hazrat Musleh Maud delivered his first public speech at the 1906 Jalsa Salana, which gained wide-acclaim. His spiritual progress was immense, his next Jalsa Speech was after the demise of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and was full of religious knowledge.

Regarding his prayers, Hazrat Mufti Muhammad Sadiq Sahib said,

"I recall that once when Mian Mahmud was approximately 10 years old, he was standing for prayer in the Aqsa Mosque with the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), and when he went into prostration, began weeping profusely. From an early age, he possessed an exceptional relationship of love for God and His Messengers."

Sheikh Ghulam Ahmad Sahib recalled of how he once saw someone deep in fervent prayer. It was Sahibzada Sahib. When he enquired,

"Mian, whatever did you ask from God today?" He replied, "I have only asked of God that He should revive Islam before my very eyes."

That deep desire at such a young age to see the day of Islam's victory did indeed bear fruit, as God blessed him with the mantle of Khilafat in his youth. He mentioned his prayer published in *"Tasheezul Azhaan"* in 1909,

"O my Lord! With my heartfelt anxiousness, I fall at Your threshold and I supplicate to You with all my heart, begging of You to hear my prayer. My Lord! Holy art thou! My people are heading towards ruin, save them from this destruction. If they call themselves Ahmadis, how can they ever forge a connection with me until their hearts and their inner self becomes pure?...Thus, O my Lord! Stir your attributes of Rahmaniyyah [the Ever Merciful] and Raheemiyah [the Most Gracious] and purify them. Instil within them the passion and spirit of the Companions (ra) so they become anxious to serve the faith, and their words and actions become refined and pure. ... O my Lord! Save my people from all sorts of trials and grief, safeguard them from all kinds of calamities that may befall them and ensure there are great noble people born among them. May they become a nation that You are pleased with and become a community that You have chosen for Yourself. May they be free from the influence of Satan and may the angels continuously descend upon them. Bless this community both in their worldly endeavours and in their faith. Ameen"

May God Almighty shower His endless Mercy on him, the one who spent day and night in spreading the religion of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the mission of his Ardent Devotee – the Promised Messiah and Mahdi (peace be upon him) – and having fulfilled his pledge, he returned to his Lord. May God Almighty enable us to understand and recite this heartfelt prayer of his, and may we fulfil the rights of being an Ahmadi. May God Almighty enable us to do so.

Sermon: 1 March 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE

Hazrat Khauli Bin Abi Khauli participated in all of the battles with Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Hazrat Rafe' Bin al-Mu'alla. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) established a bond of brotherhood between Hazrat Rafe' and Hazrat Safwan Bin Baidhaa. Both participated at Badr.

Hazrat Zush-Shimalain Humair Bin 'Abdi 'Amr was also referred to as Zul Yadain because of his abilities

of using both hands. His brotherhood was established with Yazid Bin Haris. Both were martyred at Badr.

Hazrat Rafe' Bin Yazid participated in the battles of Badr and Uhud and was martyred during the Battle of Uhud.

Hazrat Zakwan bin 'Abd-i-Qais's title was Abu Sabuh. He participated at both *Bai'ats* at Aqabah. He migrated to Makkah while the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was still in Makkah. He was thus called an *Ansari Muhajir*. He participated at Badr and was martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Khawad bin Jubair *Ansari*, sustained an injury from a sharp stone while going to Badr. He was sent back by the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) but was still included in the spoils. He participated in all battles with the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Hazrat Khawad narrates,

"The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) visited me once when I was sick. After I had fully recovered, he said: 'O Khawad, your body has restored to complete health. Hence, fulfil your covenant with Allah.' I stated: 'I have not promised Allah anything'. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: 'There is not a sick person who does not take an oath or intends [to do something] during their time of sickness. (Such a person surely says to God Almighty that he will do such and such he would grant him good health). Therefore, fulfil your promise with Allah faithfully by acting on your words.'"

We should all ponder over and greatly pay attention towards it.

Hazrat Rabee bin Aqdam's title was Abu Zaid. He participated at Battles Badr, Uhud and Khandaq. He also took part in the Treaty of Hudaibiya and was martyred at Khayber.

Hazrat Rifa' bin 'Amr Al-Jahan, also known as Wadiya bin 'Amr, participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Zaid bin Wadiya was from the Khazraj. He took part at Bai't-e-Aqabah, Badr, and was martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Ribee' bin Rafi' was from the Banu 'Ajlaan and took part at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Zaid bin Muzain participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Ayyaz bin Zuhai took part in the second migration to Abyssinia. He participated in all the battles.

Rifa bin Amr Ansari took part in the second Bai't at Aqabah along with seventy Companions. He participated at Badr and martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Ziyaad bin Amr who was also known as Ibn-e-Bishr, participated at Badr. According to another narration, he was from the freed slave of Banu Saida bin Ka'ab.

Hazrat Saalim bin 'Umair bin Thabith was from the Banu 'Amr bin 'Auf. He participated at the first Bai't at Aqabah. He was among the Companions who could not go to Tabuk because of lack of means. These seven came to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and requested that they be given some means of transport. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) replied that *"at this time, I have nothing with which I can provide for you to mount on."* They were not after horses or camels, they were only asking for shoes as they were unable to walk to the battlefield barefoot. This is how poor Muslims were!

Hazrat Saraaqah bin Ka'b belonged to the Banu Najjaar. He participated in all of battles alongside the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Hazrat Saa'ib bin Maz'oon was amongst the very first Companions to migrate to Abyssinia.

Hazrat 'Asim bin Qais participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Tufail bin Malik bin Khansa took part in the Bai't at Aqabah and at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Tufail bin Nu'man was at the Bai't-e-Aqabah as well as at Badr. At Uhud he received thirteen wounds. He was martyred at Khandaq.

Hazrat Zahaq bin 'Abd A'mr and his brother Nu'man participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Zahaq bin Haritha took part at Bai't of Aqabah and at Badr.

Hazrat Khallad bin Suweid participated at Bai't-e-Aqabah and also at Badr, Uhud and the Ditch. In the battle with Banu Quraizah, a Jewish lady named Bunanah dropped a heavy rock on his head and he was martyred.

Hazrat Aus bin Khauli participated in all the battles alongside the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He was a *'Kamileen'* - one who knew how to write, was an expert in archery and a good swimmer. Hazrat Aus bin Khauli relates that he once

presented himself before the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) who said,

“O Aus! One who adopts humility and meekness for the sake of God, He in turn elevates his status. And one who is arrogant, God humiliates him.”

This indeed is a very important lesson for us all which we should always be mindful of. May God continue to elevate the station of these noble Companions.

Sermon: 8 March 2019

THE REALITY OF "MAGIC" ON THE PROPHET (PEACE AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAH BE UPON HIM).

Hazrat Qais bin Mihsan Ansari participated at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Jubair bin Iyaas participated at Badr. He belonged to the Banu Zuraiq branch of the Khazraj. According to Hadith, a Jew attempted to cast a magic spell on the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) by taking his hair, tying knots to a comb and placing it in a well, with some dates. It was Hazrat Jubair who took those items out of the well.

Hazrat Ayesha (Allah be pleased with her) narrates,

“One night the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) supplicated before God Almighty and then again and once again and said, ‘O Ayesha, God Almighty granted me everything I had supplicated for.....I asked, ‘O Apostle of Allah what did you ask for? What has Allah bestowed you with?’ He replied, “Two men came to me and one of them sat near my head and the other near my feet. The one that was seated near my head said to one who sat near my feet...” or perhaps Hazrat Ayesha states, “Or the one who sat near my feet said to one who sat near my head: ‘What is this man, i.e. Muhammad, suffering from?’ The other replied: ‘A spell has been cast on him. The former asked: Who has cast the spell? The latter replied: ‘It was a Jew named Labid bin Asim.’ He then asked: ‘What is the thing by which he transmitted its effect?’ The other replied: ‘Using a comb and by the hair

wrapped around the spathe of a date-palm.’ He then asked: ‘Where is it located?’ He replied: ‘In the well of Zhi Arwan.’” Hazrat Ayesha states, “The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) went to the well with some Companions. When he returned, he said, ‘O Ayesha, by God! The water of the well had a reddish complexion resembling extracts of henna.’”

In relation to this narration, Hazrat Musleh Ma’ud (Allah be pleased with him) states,

“It merely states that Allah the Exalted had informed the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) through angels that the Jews have tried to cast a spell on him. It does not mean that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was affected by the spell in the way people believe spells to work.”

When Hazrat Ayesha (Allah be pleased with her) asked the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) if Satan was attached to him, he responded,

“Yes. However, God has granted me victory over Satan to the extent that even my Satan has become a Muslim.”

There is no room to give any credibility to a claim that a Jew, with the help of his Satan, could cast a spell on someone as exalted as the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib writes,

“... it is important to note that this incident of sorcery took place after the Treaty of Hudaibiyah..... During this time, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) became anxious and worried for those who were weak of faith. ... it impacted him psychologically and he suffered from temporary amnesia.”

When the Jews and hypocrites witnessed that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was unwell, they spread the rumour of casting a spell on him. When the Prophet (peace and

blessings of Allah be upon him) came to know of this supposed sorcery, he prayed further to Allah ... Allah heard his ardent pleas and manifested the truth to him in a vision. He was totally saved from this attempted magic.

How could the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) fall victim to amnesia? Allah says,

“O Messenger, tell them, ‘I am but a human being like yourselves, and subject to all those laws to which other human beings are subject. Yet, I am also a Prophet of God and have been granted Divine Revelation from God for the guidance of mankind.’”

Once an expert Hindu hypnotist, went to a gathering and secretly began to focus his attention on the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), to influence and humiliate him. ... All of a sudden, he screamed and ran away. He said that when he focused his attention on Mirza sahib, he saw a fearsome lion, ready to pounce. Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad Sahib writes,

“If the servant (the Promised Messiah) holds such a status that God Almighty did not allow for him to be hypnotised, then how can one believe that the master – i.e. the Holy Prophet – was hypnotised by the Jews, God forbid?”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) stated,

“Sorcery is also the work of Satan. It does not behove the status of a prophet or messenger to come under the influence of a spell. Rather, all spells are broken when they come in contact with a prophet, just as God states in the Holy Quran - And a magician shall not thrive, come where he may. Observe, Prophet Moses (peace be upon him) was confronted by the magicians, did Moses (peace be upon him) not succeed? To say that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was influenced by magic is absolutely incorrect and we can never accept there to be any truth in this matter.”

Sermon: 15 March 2019

MEN OF EXCELLENCE: THE PROPHET’S (PEACE AND BLESSINGS OF ALLAH BE UPON HIM) MOSQUE

Hazrat Saib Bin Usman participated in the second migration to Abyssinia with his father and uncle, Hazrat Qudamah. He participated in all the battles alongside the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Hazrat Zamrah Bin ‘Amr Juhni participated at Badr and martyred at Uhud.

Hazrat Sa’ad Bin Suhail fought at Badr and Uhud.

Hazrat Sa’ad Bin ‘Ubaid participated in all the battles alongside the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Hazrat Sa’d bin ‘Ubaid is amongst the four Ansari Companions, who collected the Holy Qur’an during the lifetime of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). He was martyred at of Qadisiyyah in 16 AH.

Hazrat Sahl bin ‘Atiq participated in the second pledge at ‘Aqba along with seventy Ansar. He fought at Badr and Uhud. He and his brother Suhail bin Rafi’ (ra) owned the piece of land on which Masjid Nabawi was constructed.

When the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) arrived in Medina, everybody longed of being his host. As his camel passed, families would line up to receive him saying, ‘Come and live with us.’

Politely the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would refuse saying,

‘Leave my camel alone. She is under the command of God; she will stop where God wants her to stop.’

Ultimately it stopped on a site belonging to orphans of the Banu Najjar. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) dismounted saying,

‘It seems that this is where God wants us to stop.’

It was discovered that the land belonged to a few orphans. A trustee offered the site but the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) replied that he would not accept without paying for it. A price was settled, and the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) decided to build a mosque and some houses on it.”

A basic mosque was constructed. At one corner of the mosque, a veranda was built, referred to as *Şuffah*. This was for the poor homeless *Muhajirin*. They would stay here and known as the *Aşhabuş-Şuffah*. They would remain in the company of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) day and night, perform worship, and recite the Qur'an. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would take care of them personally and whenever a gift etc was received or there was something available at home, he would especially separate their share. However, despite all this, they lived in a state of adversity, often close to starvation.

A place of residence was constructed for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) adjacent to the mosque. His home was a small chamber of merely ten to fifteen feet. A single entrance led from this chamber to the mosque, from which the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would enter the mosque to lead the *Şalat*, etc. When the number of his wives increased, additional living quarters were built for the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) alongside the first. The homes of various other Companions were also built in close proximity of the mosque.

The assembly of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would take place at the mosque including all types of consultations. Legal verdicts were passed from here. This was the official guesthouse. In short, it served as a centre of any task of national importance. Nonetheless, Hazrat Sohail and his brother had the good fortune of offering their land for this Great Centre of Islam.

Hazrat Sa'ad bin Khaithamah was one of the twelve chiefs, appointed to supervise the Muslims of Madinah during the second pledge at Aqabah. The first Friday prayer offered in Madinah was at the house of Hazrat Sa'd bin Khaithamah.

He owned a well called "Al Ghars" in Quba. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would regularly drink from that well saying,

"This is from the fountains of Paradise and its water is excellent".

It was from this well's water that the blessed remains of the Holy Prophet were washed.

Suleiman bin Abaan narrates that when the

Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) set out for Badr, both Hazrat Sa'd bin Khaithamah and his father made the intent of accompanying him. When it was brought to the Prophet's attention that both father and son -from a single household- are setting out together, he instructed only one should set out and advised them to cast lots to decide. Hazrat Khaithamah told his son,

"As only one of us can go for battle, I advise you to stay at home with the women to protect and guard them".

Hazrat Sa'd replied,

"Had this been a matter related to something other than Paradise, I would surely have given precedence to your request. But I myself am envious of martyrdom".

Upon this, they both cast lots which came in favour of Hazrat Sa'd who set out alongside the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and was martyred at Badr.

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National Peace Symposium

By the Grace of Allah the UK Jama'at held a very successful 16th Peace Symposium on 9th March 2019 at Baitul Futuh. It was attended by more than a 1000 people of which 700 were dignitaries and guests from 32 countries included Ministers, Ambassadors of State, Church leaders and Members of Parliament.

Huzoor arrived at the venue at around 5.45 pm and proceeded to the Exhibition Hall for a short Press Conference where some two dozen journalists lay waiting. They included representatives from the *Daily Telegraph*, *New Statesman*, Geo TV, Zee TV, AAJ TV, Euro Times, The Nation and Al TV, Zee TV among others.

One journalist enquired what Huzoor considered to be the most serious threats to peace in the UK and around the world. In responding, Huzoor hinted at the content of his address that he was to give later and replied the following as reported by Orlando Jenkinson Lando of the Surrey Comet,

'The leaders of some of the nuclear powers are trigger happy and appear not to appreciate the truly grave consequences of nuclear warfare. Not only do such weapons have the power to annihilate the countries targeted, but also have the potential to destroy the peace and stability of the entire world. Thus it is imperative that nations and their leaders not only focus on their own national interests but consider what is best for the world at large. Dialogue with other nations and communities is vital.'

After the short press conference, Huzoor met some of the senior guests that had gathered in the Library before proceeding to the Mosque for Mughrib and Isha prayers.

Tours for the guests who wished to see the mosque had begun early at 5 pm and were seeing their completion at *salat* time. These were undertaken by a team of selected guides from

Jamia. An elaborate exhibition had also been set up in the marquee put up in the car park. This featured displays put up by Tabligh, Majlis Ansarullah, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Review of Religions, International Ahmadi Association of Architects & Engineers and Humanity First.

The main session began in the Tahir Hall with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an after which Amir Sahib UK, Mr Rafiq Hayat gave a welcome address.

Thereafter, the Most Reverend Kevin McDonald, Archbishop Emeritus of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark thanked the Jama'at for its strong unrelenting efforts in promoting peace of which the Peace Symposium was but one example.

The highlight of the evening was the address of Hazrat Amirul Momineen in which he warned the world of intensifying global hostilities and the risk of a disastrous nuclear war. Huzoor Aqdas said,

"As rivalries ferment and hatreds become ever more deeply entrenched, no one knows where such issues will finally lead us or how horrific the consequences will prove to be."

Huzoor opened by saying that the Jama'at would never waver from its efforts to promote peace and justice in the world. He warned that rivalries between nations were intensifying and new battle lines were being drawn that could prove disastrous.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen highlighted that nuclear war was no longer a remote or distant prospect, but rather a growing threat that could no longer be discounted or ignored.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V mentioned a number of pressing catalysts including tensions between nuclear powers, conflicts and proxy wars in the Middle East, far-right nationalism, anti-immigration sentiments, economic frustrations and isolationism that continue to push nations towards nuclear war and global destruction.



“ If we glance at just a few of today’s pressing issues it is clear that the world is heading in an ominous direction. During the past year, the United States claimed, with a degree of confidence, that it was close to securing a historic peace deal with North Korea, but in recent days, it has become clear that nothing of substance has been achieved. Conflict in the Middle East continues to rage. ”

He warned of the catastrophic nuclear destruction that could ensue if nations did not show tolerance or strive to break down the causes of division between them. Huzoor Anwar said,

“If there is a nuclear war, we will not only be destroying the world today but we will also be leaving behind a lasting trail of destruction and misery for our future generations. Hence, we must pause and reflect on the consequences of our actions. We should not consider any issue or conflict, whether within a country or at an international level, to be insignificant.”

Commenting on escalating tensions between nations, Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated,

“During the past year, the United States claimed with a degree of confidence that it

was close to securing an historic peace deal with North Korea but in recent days it has become clear that nothing of substance has been achieved.”

And continued,

“In recent days, the world witnessed a sudden escalation in tension between India and Pakistan. Both countries are nuclear powers and both have built alliances with other nations, whether openly or in secret, which mean that the potential consequences of a war would be extensive and far-reaching.”

Huzoor Aqdas opined that nations are using conflicts in the Middle East as a tool to create dominance by building alliances and igniting further conflict.

“On one side, Russia and Turkey are aligning,

“

‘In terms of Islam, you may wonder what it can teach us about bringing peace in the world when much of the instability and conflict in recent years has centred around Muslim countries. Yet the sorry state of those nations is because they have moved far away from the true teachings of Islam.

”



whilst on the other side, the United States and Saudi Arabia are joining together and are ratcheting up pressure on Iran and seeking further sanctions against them. Political experts are openly expressing that the objective of these nations is to dominate the Middle East.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V further stated,

“Time and again, we have seen examples of countries that have intervened in war-torn nations or given aid to deprived countries on the pretext of bringing peace but have attached strings that enable them to take control of the weaker country’s resources. Rather than being content with their own wealth, powerful countries seek to assert their control over weaker nations.”

Huzoor Anwar cited Syria as an example of a war that had caused endless misery and remained in a precarious state stating,

“Over almost a decade, Syria has been ravaged by bloodshed and torn asunder. It is said that the civil war is now edging towards an end but what has the past decade achieved except the death of hundreds of thousands of innocent people and the displacement of millions of others? Nothing positive has

emerged and the future remains uncertain and precarious, as tensions rise between nations who have their own vested interests tied into the future of Syria.”

He mentioned that although these nations attempted to defeat extremist groups like Daesh in the Middle East, they have in reality, only allowed their hateful teachings to spread further. Huzoor explained,

“It is said that the terrorist group Daesh is on the verge of collapse and that their so-called Khilafat is finished. Yet experts also warn that though Daesh has lost its territory, its hateful ideology persists and its members who have survived are now scattering and could eventually regroup and perpetrate attacks in Europe or elsewhere.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen also emphasised that nationalism continues to rear its ugly head and that far-right parties are gaining popularity globally. He explained that a core reason underpinning far-right popularity has been widespread immigration.

Huzoor further explained that feelings of resentment stem from the belief that existing indigenous citizens are being short-changed in order to fund and support immigrants. He provided both a long term and a short term



“ ‘From an Islamic perspective, we should strive for the entire world to unite together. In terms of currency, the world should be united...In terms of free business and trade, the world should be united and in terms of freedom of movement and immigration, cohesive and practical policies should be developed, so that the world can become united.’ ”

solution to resolve this pressing issue. Explaining the long term solution, he said,

“The long-term solution to the immigration crisis has to be to establish peace in war-torn countries and to help the local people, who have been forced to endure lives of misery and danger, to live peacefully.”

Discussing the short term solution, Hazrat Amirul Momineen advised,

“In the short term, where refugees or asylum seekers come to the West due to the prevailing political or religious conditions in their own countries, they should be treated with dignity and respect. At the same time, whatever support they are given should not be at the expense of existing citizens. Immigrants should be strongly encouraged to enter employment as soon as possible, rather than living off benefits for long periods. They should work hard, seek to stand upon their own two feet and contribute positively to their new society. Otherwise, if they are continually funded by tax-payers money it will inevitably lead to grievances.”

Furthermore, Huzoor stated his belief to be,

that the underlying cause of most resentment in society tends to be economic and financial frustration and that this inevitably leads to the spread of Islamophobia and xenophobia. He said,

“Certain groups take advantage of such anxiety by laying the blame at the feet of immigrants or at the followers of religion and incite sentiments of hatred towards them. Thus, an impression has developed in Europe that Asians, Africans and particularly Muslim immigrants are a threat to society. In the United States, there are similar fears regarding Muslims and also Hispanics seeking to enter the country through Mexico.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih clarified that the root cause of frustration and the resulting hostility, whether in the East or the West, is economic injustice and so it is essential that a concerted effort is made to bridge the economic divide amongst nations and their people.

He explained that if such countries, that have been centres of war or division, are enabled to prosper economically, they will no longer harbour frustrations or bear hatred for other nations. Nor will their people be forced to migrate.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen also addressed the

widespread uncertainty and anxiety in the UK regarding Brexit and the UK's future relationship with the European Union. He mentioned that he made his views on Brexit very clear during an address at the European Parliament in 2012, when he stated that the strength of Europe lies in its remaining united and together as one. He said,

"In my speech seven years ago, I focused upon the importance of removing the fears of the public about immigration and emphasising the benefits of unity. However, people's concerns were not adequately addressed and so, increasingly, people across Europe have come to question the benefits of the European Union...Hence, where I had hoped for greater unity in Europe, the past few years have witnessed increased division and turmoil."

Citing Islamic teachings to offer a solution to this turmoil, Huzoor Aqdas stated:

"The Islamic viewpoint is that peace can best be achieved through unity. Yet, regretfully, instead of uniting, we are seeking separation and prioritising our individual interests over the collective interests of the world. I believe that such policies will, and already are, undermining the world's peace and security."

Explaining how Islamic teachings provide peace to the world, Hazrat Amirul Momineen explained,

"To get an accurate portrayal of Islamic governance and leadership we should look to the era of the Founder of Islam, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). After the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) migrated to the city of Medina, he formed a covenant with the Jewish people, whereby the Muslims and the Jewish citizens were to live together peacefully and with a spirit of mutual sympathy, tolerance and equity."

And continued,

"The covenant proved to be a magnificent charter of human rights and governance and ensured peace between the different communities living in Madinah. According to its terms, all people, regardless of their faith or ethnicity, were bound to respect the rights of one another. Freedom of belief and freedom of conscience were cornerstones of that treaty."

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih concluded his address by praying for the long term peace of the world. Huzoor prayed,

"May Allah the Almighty enable true peace to emerge and may the long shadows of war and conflict that hover above us be replaced by blue skies of peace and prosperity. I pray for an end to the frustrations and deprivation that have plagued the lives of countless people and have fuelled devastating wars and grievances across the world...I pray that we show tolerance of each other's beliefs and customs and value the diversity within our societies. I pray that we come to see the best in humanity and use each other's strengths and skills to build a better world for our children and to cultivate lasting peace in society."

After completing his address, Huzoor brought the formal proceedings to a close with a silent prayer after which dinner was served.

(Huzoor's quotes taken with thanks from a press release issued by the Press & Media Desk of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at unless otherwise stated.)

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Prize for the Advancement of Peace

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Prize for the Advancement of Peace is an international award that was launched in 2009 by His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (may Allah be his Helper). It is awarded in recognition of an individual's or an organisation's contribution for the advancement of the cause of peace.



YEAR	RECIPIENT
2009	Lord Eric Avebury – UK
2010	Abdul Sattar Edhi – Pakistan
2011	SOS Children's Villages – UK
2012	Dr Boachie-Adjei – Ghana
2013	Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow – Scotland
2014	Mrs Sindhutai Sapkal – India
2015	Hadeel Qassim – Iraq
2016	Mrs Setsuko Thurlow – Canada
2017	Dr Leonid Roshal – Russia
2018	Dr Fred Mednick – USA

2018 Peace Prize Winner – Dr Fred Mednick - USA

Launched in 2000, the mission of *Teachers Without Borders* is to connect teachers to information and each other in order to close the educational divide. It is based on the premise that teachers are community change agents and key drivers of global development.

Initiatives include education in emergencies, girls education, peace and human rights education, bullying, ICT in education and child friendly spaces.

Teachers Without Borders programmes and resources have been adopted by teachers and communities worldwide including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Brunei, Cameroon, China, Ghana, Haiti, Mexico, Nigeria, Turkey and United States of America.

All *Teachers Without Borders* programmes are conceived and led by teacher leaders. Programmes are designed to be adaptable, adoptable, affordable, and accessible so that local leaders can ensure relevance for the communities they serve



Today, *Teachers Without Borders* members represent 171 countries and its social networks are flourishing. They are a local action organisation — on a global scale, and it is completely free.

It was founded by Dr Fred Mednick, who is a former English teacher and a high school principal.

List of Countries Represented Peace Symposium 2019

The following 32 countries were represented at the National Peace Symposium 2019.

EMBASSIES

Canada • Gambia • India • Iraq • Israel • Liberia • Morocco • Uganda

COUNTRIES

Bahrain • Belgium • Bosnia • Canada • Croatia • Finland • Georgia • Greece • Iceland • Italy • Kosovo
Kazakhstan • Lithuania • Macedonia • Mauritius • Nepal • Netherlands • Norway • Portugal • Spain
Sweden • Switzerland • United Kingdom • USA

NATIONAL PEACE SYMPOSIUM UK

FEEDBACK AND MESSAGES

The feedback from the guests who attended was overwhelming. A selected few are presented below. In addition, the social media campaign yielded 115,000 impressions to the message of the symposium tweets. For the first time a post event video highlighting extracts of Huzoor's speech was issued which significantly increased the amount of impressions and reach. In total the Twitter audience of the Peace Symposium reached 900,000.

CLlr Anthony Williams, Chairman East Hampshire District Council

*A few words of gratitude to thank you for inviting me and Pamela to the 2019 Peace Symposium. It is a truly uplifting event and I only wish that more people, throughout the World could sit in silence for 40 minutes to listen to, and digest, the views of His Holiness on the subject of peace in the world...
...My sincere good wishes to His Holiness, yourselves and all in the Community in the UK, and throughout the World.*

Reverend John McMohan, Senior Representative of Church of Scotland

Dear Abdul, thank you for your hospitality on Saturday. I enjoyed the event very much and, indeed, I was talking to people at work about it today. We need to work together more closely for the peace of the world. God bless you.

Layla Coe - Soka Gakkai International

Well organised, friendly people on the door, simple registration system, delicious and plentiful food, inspiring speeches and a wonderfully diverse audience. What more is there to say? I hope that all the positive energy from the event carries through into the lives of those who were there and who we all touch.

Vedran Obucina - Old Catholic Patriarchy

Excellent organisation and preparation, maybe mixing the delegations at the dinner tables would provide better making of contacts.

Mirre C – Freedom of Conscience

Very honoured to be part of this call for peace.

Vasco Fronzoni – Professor University of Oriental Sciences Naples

Excellent organization, important participants, interesting topics, stimulating meetings.

Nina Amin - Sangam

It was well organised, inspirational speakers and had a chance to make acquaintance with some new people. I feel it was well managed overall. I would have liked to spend more time on the tour of the Mosque and learn little bit more.

Mariia Lokalova

Thanks to my neighbours Amir and Rahat, me and my husband had the opportunity to attend the National Peace Symposium 2019. Also before I had attended the Peace symposium for ladies. Both events were done, organised and held just great! People of your community are very nice and polite, we have received amazing experience. Thank you very much.

Video message to the National Peace Symposium from:

**H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca -
President of Malta**

“The theme of this symposium, The Critical Need for Peace, is particularly close to my heart...I believe our faith communities are essential stakeholders to create an environment of sustainable peace and holistic well-being in all of our communities, our countries and our world. One important way to achieve this is by focusing on interfaith dialogue...Underlying the diversity of our faith traditions there are common values. I believe that these common values should be the connections that must exist amongst us and amongst our human family, because they are critical for peace. At a period in our history when the world is facing increasing uncertainties and social tensions, I believe that our religious leaders have an important responsibility to encourage dialogue among our respective communities. It is by promoting dialogue and exploring opportunities for cooperation that we can all achieve sustainable peace for our world. I look forward to joining you at a future edition of this important gathering. May you continue to promote an environment of dialogue and respect for the benefit of our entire human family.”



**Message of Support from Emanuela Del Rae,
Italian Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and
International Cooperation.**

“Let me express my deep appreciation for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community engagement in activities dedicated to protect and promote universal human rights in the world and to recognise efforts made by those who seek to advance the cause of peace...”

“The 16th Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK National Peace Symposium is a very significant event, which makes us all understand how fundamental it is to understand the responsibility that we have in reaffirming universal values within the framework of Human Rights. The challenges posed by our globalized society at all levels – social, economic, political, cultural – call upon us the need to be united for peace and to strive together for the improvement of the conditions of people today and of future generations. The leadership of His Holiness the Khalifa is strongly significant in this complex context.”



Relocation of Markaz to Islamabad, Surrey

By Waleed Ahmad



During the closing minutes of his Friday Sermon of 12th April 2019, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V departed from the main subject of his discourse and drew the attention of members to a revelation of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) - '*expand your house*' which had been vouchsafed to him at different times. Huzoor pointed out that according to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) when initially God Almighty bestowed upon him this revelation, only two or three people would come to meet him and sit in his gatherings. Many did not know of him. Subsequently the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) received many other revelations and alongside them, the revelation of '*expand your house*' was revealed to him on several occasions. When God Almighty instructs His prophets by way of revelation to carry out a certain task, it means that He would assist them with Divine succour and support. The history of the Jama'at is proof of how God Almighty fulfilled this prophecy with full grandeur and glory, and how He continues to fulfil the prophecy inherent in this revelation to this day.

Huzoor then proceeded to recount that when Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (Allah have mercy on him) migrated to the UK in 1984, God Almighty immediately showed a miraculous sign of His Divine

support and enabled the Jama'at to purchase a 25-acre tract of land, later named Islamabad. Subsequently, a further 6 acres was added to this. The Jalsa Salanas took place there and it contained residences for Jama'at employees and *Waqfe Zindagis*. There was a small house for the residence of Khalifatul Masih, a few offices and one of the barrack-style buildings was used as a mosque to offer prayers. Huzoor recalled that when he visited the UK in 1985, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (Allah have mercy on him) especially said to him that God Almighty had granted an excellent site, which is even sufficient to serve as the Markaz (headquarters). Although these were not his exact words, Huzoor explained, however he said words to this effect. Furthermore, Huzoor pointed out there are some other indications to this effect and that he was convinced that it was the wish of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (Allah have mercy on him) to settle the Markaz (headquarters) in Islamabad.

Huzoor then explained that God Almighty has appointed a time for everything and that He has now granted us the opportunity to carry out reconstruction work in Islamabad. As a result, new offices have been built with better amenities; a purpose-built mosque has been completed along



“Huzoor pointed out there are some other indications to this effect and that he was convinced that it was the wish of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (Allah have mercy on him) to settle the Markaz (headquarters) in Islamabad.”

with a residence for Khalifatul Masih. Houses for *Waqfe Zindagis* and Jama'at workers have also been constructed, with more to be built in due course. Opining on the issues pertaining to the then current Markaz in London, Huzoor explained that there the offices were set up in houses that had been converted temporarily for this purpose. The space was congested and it was difficult to operate in these circumstances. Since the workload has increased many times over, it was difficult to continue due to a scarcity of space. Moreover, the Council was apt to complain from time to time that these houses were residential units as opposed to offices and urged the closure of the latter.

Huzoor announced that now after the reconstruction, the three or four offices that used to operate in these houses will be moving to Islamabad, Inshallah. Allah has blessed this plan in other ways. Huzoor revealed that recently God Almighty has granted the Jama'at a large two storey building in Farnham, situated two to three miles away, which is suitable for a printing press and a few

other offices. Aside from this, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya UK has purchased a large building in that locality. Prior to all this, Huzoor reminded that God Almighty had enabled the Jama'at to purchase Hadeeqatul Mahdi to hold the Jalsa Salana – a site which was spread over 200 acres. In addition to this, Jamia Ahmadiyya UK, which was previously in London, also moved nearby. The current site is approximately 30 acres in very idyllic surroundings. Huzoor pointed out that all these places are situated at a 10 – 20-minute drive away from Islamabad. There was no conscious plan in place to purchase all these sites due to the redevelopment of Islamabad, Huzoor said. Rather, it was God Almighty Who provided all these sites close to one another.

Coming to the crucial point, Huzoor announced that since the residence of the Khalifa and some offices have now been completed, he would be relocating to Islamabad *inshallah* in a few days' time. He urged the Jama'at to pray that by Allah's grace this change may prove to be a blessing in every respect.



It was a seminal moment. A sense of history, even shock, was palpable among the audience listening to the sermon in Baitul Futuh. This was clearly a significant step forward for the Jama'at.

Accordingly, a few days later on 15th April 2019, Huzoor made his final preparations for this relocation. He led the *Asr* prayers at Fazl Mosque. The headquarters of the Jama'at had been here for 35 years since 1984 when Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV arrived in the UK. Hundreds of people gathered to bid Huzoor farewell. Before leaving, Huzoor listened to a few *tiranas* sung by little children and led everyone in a silent prayer. It was an emotional scene with several in tears. He left a little after 6 pm.

The feelings of sadness felt by many with the departure of the Khalifa, and thus the headquarters from Masjid Fazl, was soon replaced with happiness and joy on receiving the news of Huzoor's arrival in Islamabad. The smile of contentment on Huzoor's blessed face was a joy to behold.

Receiving him at Islamabad were hundreds of men, women and children as Huzoor's motorcade made its way in at 6.55 pm.

Upon arriving, Huzoor waved towards the crowd and listened to the poems recited by young children. Later, Huzoor Aqdas led the *Maghrib* and *Isha* prayers at the newly built Mubarak Mosque. It was a special and momentous occasion in the history of the Jama'at.

As Huzoor advised, we should continue to pray that Allah bless this relocation in every respect for the benefit of the Jama'at and its progress in the future.



“Huzoor Aqdas led the *Maghrib* and *Isha* prayers at the newly built Mubarak Mosque. It was a special and momentous occasion in the history of the Jama'at.

As Huzoor advised, we should continue to pray that Allah bless this relocation in every respect for the benefit of the Jama'at and its progress in the future.”

I A A A E

SYMPOSIUM 2019

The 15th Symposium of the International Association of Ahmadi Architects and Engineers (IAAAE) Europe took place on Saturday 27th April 2019 in the Tahir Hall in Baitul Futuh. The theme was 'Education For Sustainable Development'.

The highlight of the entire day was the arrival of Hazrat Amirul Momineen who graced the event with his presence. Huzoor Aqdas arrived to lead the Asr prayers before proceeding to the Tahir Hall for the final session of the Symposium.

Tilawat-e-Qur'an was by Mr Abdul Razzak Sheikh after which Mr Mohsin Tahir presented a brief report of what had already taken place. Mr Akram Ahmedi Chairman IAAAE Europe then gave an account of the activities of the organisation during 2018/19. He spoke of the model village projects that the charity was embarking on and how it had established some 20 such villages in various parts of Africa each providing roads, a community centre, sanitation facilities and MTA for the local mosque. The 3 set up in 2018/19 were located in Benin, Mali and Gambia which is almost complete. These were helping around 1700 people. Light utilising solar power cells provided was mentioned.

The Chairman then moved to the provision of water through its Water For Life initiative. To date 2,667 pumps had been repaired which has helped over a million people. The alternative Energy committee had assessed 50 existing systems in Uganda and 25 in Burkina Faso and installed 25 new installations each in Gambia and Guinea Bissau. Twenty one IAAAE members from the European countries were also trained up to assume some of the complex technical responsibilities associated with these operations.

The Charity's efforts in providing alternative energy to desolate parts of Africa were mentioned and its effort in the \$1.6bn Darus Salam Mosque



project was discussed. The Mosque can now accommodate 900 worshippers. Another Mosque that IAAAE was involved with was the Mubarak Mosque in Mali.

Mr Akram Ahmedi then elaborated upon the Masroor International Technical College initiative and how that was being developed. The first College had already been established in Ouagadougou Burkina Faso and there were plans to have such colleges in every African country in due course.

In his address, Huzoor congratulated the organisation for its efforts. Huzoor commended the role it had played in the construction of Mosques and prayed that Allah may continue to increase the scope of their work and expertise. Huzoor said,



**“ Your services are proving to be of great benefit to the Jama’at and the wider society,’
... ‘May He increase your knowledge, skills and capabilities so that your work
continues to achieve ever higher standards.’**

“With the Grace of Allah, wherever in the world the IAAAE is serving, its members are working in an exemplary fashion and with a spirit of true service and dedication. In this regard, I pray that may Allah the Almighty enable you to continually increase the scope of your work and expertise.”

Huzoor commented on IAAAE’s contribution in the Tanzanian and Mali Mosque complexes and stated that the reports received were encouraging praising the planning and design which were impressive. Huzoor said with the operation of these centres, others will see how we utilise our centres for the benefit of humanity and to offer a helping hand to the weaker and needy in society. Huzoor said,

“The members of the IAAAE are working with great diligence, care and with a sincere desire to serve the Jama’at and to alleviate the suffering of people who are living impoverished and desperately tough lives. In fact, some of the volunteers do not even claim for expenses and so, apart from sacrificing their time and and providing their professional expertise free of charge, they are even bearing the costs of travel personally.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen continued:

“Unquestionably, such devoted people are working with the spirit of a true Waqf (life devotee) of the Jama’at. I greatly appreciate their sincere efforts and I pray that may Allah the Almighty reward them immensely for this service and bless their efforts manifold.”

In mentioning the new complexes being built Huzoor said that they will further enhance our efforts and enable the spreading of our messages.

‘Your services are proving to be of great benefit to the Jama’at and the wider society,’

He added,

‘May He increase your knowledge, skills and capabilities so that your work continues to achieve ever higher standards.’

Huzoor advised the IAAAE workers that their ultimate objective should not just be their personal work but their personal relationship with Allah and how such services for others helps develop and enhance that relationship. He said,



"I wish to remind all of you that it is of the utmost importance that you pay special attention to establishing a true and lasting connection with Allah the Almighty and remain ever grateful to Him and continually strive to improve the standards of your worship."

And,

"Your sole focus should not be the material work you are doing but rather building your personal relationship with Allah the Almighty should always remain your paramount objective. If you sincerely aspire to attain the nearness of Allah the Almighty you will see how He blesses your efforts and you will come to see the most beautiful fruits of your labour."

Huzoor concluded his address with a prayer for the members of IAAAE. He said,

"May you all prove to be great assets for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and may the younger generations step forward in great numbers to follow in the footsteps of the older members who have offered years of

service. May they learn from the positive examples of their elders and serve with even greater passion, energy and skill than their predecessors so that the work of the IAAAE continues to go from strength to strength."

Huzoor then led everyone in a silent prayer. Photographs were taken before he joined the gathering for dinner.

.....
Huzoor's quotes taken with thanks from a Press release issued by the Press & Media Desk of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at.

JAMIA CONVOCATION

(INCORPORATING STUDENTS FROM THE UK, GERMANY AND CANADA)

Jamia Ahmadiyya UK hosted a joint convocation for 41 graduates from the UK (17), Germany (18) and Canada (6) on 29th April 2019. The event represented the 7th Convocation ceremony for the UK, 8th for Germany and 4th for Canada. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V presided over the proceedings. He presented each graduate with their 'Shahid Degree' certificates and delivered a faith-inspiring address, in which he reminded the newly qualified Imams that they should continually seek to increase and progress their knowledge and understanding of Islam. Huzoor emphasised the heavy responsibility that now lay upon the life devotees and the need to recognise the overall objective of their mission.

"You have dedicated your lives for the sake of that Messiah and Mahdi who was sent by God Almighty for the renaissance of Islam. You have devoted your lives for the sake of fulfilling his mission. So this is a great responsibility that you have taken upon yourselves."

Continuing, Huzoor stated,

"By devoting your lives, you have presented yourselves to be the support of the true Khilafat which was to be established after the advent of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) who came in accordance with the prophecies of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)."

Hazrat Amirul Momineen explained that missionaries ought to serve their faith with a spirit of true sincerity and absolute fidelity exemplified by the Prophet Abraham (peace be upon him). Huzoor said,

"Allah the Almighty has praised Prophet Abraham (peace be upon him) in the Holy Quran where He states, 'Abraham who fulfilled the commandments' because he fulfilled the covenant which he had made to Allah the Almighty. Now fidelity to your faith demands that you too should fulfil this



covenant that you have made. And this cannot be fulfilled simply through mere words, rather lifelong devotion and a spiritual Jihad (struggle) will be required."

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V advised that personal efforts alone would not result in success. Rather, obedience, sincerity and God's help were the means to bring about a change for good in the world. Huzoor advised,

"Constant prayer and the establishment of a personal relationship with Allah the Almighty too are essential for your success. A person cannot achieve true fidelity and loyalty to his faith until he prays earnestly and creates a personal relationship with God seeking His help in attaining the highest standards of faithfulness."

Constant self-assessment and improvement was also necessary, Huzoor Aqdas exhorted,

Whilst speaking of the need to improve in their spirituality, Huzoor further emphasised the need for the young missionaries to develop true compassion for humanity. He said true sympathy and empathy towards others would enable them to forge strong bonds with the younger members of the Jama'at and the wider society.



"We must regularly assess ourselves. We should see whether or not we are advancing in our love for Allah the Almighty. We should not make hollow claims or pay mere lip-service to our faith. Rather we must self-analyse and ask ourselves, 'Are we consumed by the love of Allah? Are our hearts immersed in it? Are we endeavouring to fulfil the rights of Allah the Almighty? Are we trying to attain the high standards required of His worship?'"

"I hope that by the grace of Allah you will always and forever continue to strive towards becoming submerged in the love of Allah the Almighty and will try to consistently rid yourselves of the material desires of this world."

Whilst speaking of the need to improve in their spirituality, Huzoor further emphasised the need for the young missionaries to develop true compassion for humanity. He said true sympathy and empathy towards others would enable them to forge strong bonds with the younger members of the Jama'at and the wider society.

"You should hold compassion in your hearts for humanity more than all others. It is sympathy for humanity that will enable you to widen your circles and to increase the ties of brotherhood with others. It will allow you to attach the youth to yourselves which will better enable you to help them with their moral and spiritual training. People will come closer to you if they see your kindness and consideration towards them."

Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated that when it comes to matters of faith, one should be free of all hypocrisies and never make compromises. Huzoor advised that the graduates must become like "firm mountains" in their resolve to follow the teachings of Islam. Huzoor reflected on the spiritual and moral state of the world and said that mankind is in desperate need of guidance and the graduating Imams must play their role in guiding people towards morality.

"Nowadays, majority of the world is engulfed in a race towards materialism and has forgotten God Almighty and thus is mired in spiritual darkness. In such times it is your responsibility to become the guiding stars of the night. This is the task of those who have presented their lives for this purpose."

And,

"In this day and age you have been made the spiritual leaders of the world by God Almighty. He desires that you may become the centre towards which people flock to gain religious knowledge and to increase in spirituality. This demands that you create a bond of love with God Almighty and increase in your spirituality."

Reminding them about their objectives, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V said the young Imams must not only guide people of the Jama'at towards improving their obedience to the teachings of Islam, but also must inform others about the beautiful and peace-loving teachings of Islam. Huzoor Aqdas stated,



**Jamia students from the
United Kingdom, Canada and Germany with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V**

“You must follow not the world, but let the world follow you! Continue to follow and spread the teachings of Islam with determination and perseverance. You must make the world follow the light of the teachings of Islam, rather than bowing down to materialism and worldly ideologies.”

And

“Indecency and immodesty are becoming widespread in the name of so-called ‘freedom’. You have been brought up in the West and so you know this well and now it is your duty to combat this spiritual decline. Material progress is tantamount to ignorance if it lacks the blessings of God Almighty.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen said that truly civilised and educated are those who follow the teachings given by God Almighty through His Messengers and it is through the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) that humanity witnessed uncivilised people not only become civilised, but reach the pinnacle of civilisation and

morality. Huzoor added,

“We ourselves should be the first to follow the teachings of Islam without any fear or complex as we are the ones who have pledged to spread its message to the corners of the earth.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih concluded his address by praying for the young missionaries,

“May Allah enable you to progress in your love for the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and attain the love of God Almighty. May Allah the Almighty enable you and I to spread the peaceful teachings of Islam, which was the task begun by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in servitude of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessing be upon him).”

Adapted from a Press Release issued by the Press & Media Office of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at.

WAQFE NAU IJTEMAS

Waqfe Nau Ijtemas for the girls and boys took place on the 6th and 7th of April 2019 at Baitul Futuh. At the first event more than 1100 women and girls were present. The highlight was the inspiring address by Hazrat Amirul Momineen in which Huzoor urged *Waqfat Nau* to **“Disregard any hesitation or fear and stand up with certainty and conviction in the truth of your faith and respond to those who seek to defame its pure teachings.”**

Huzoor explained that in today’s society, attacks against Islam, through false allegations and criticisms, were extremely prevalent. In light of this, we must never feel any embarrassment or a sense of inferiority regarding our faith. Huzoor Aqdas urged the ladies to stand up with certainty and conviction to respond to those who seek to defame Islam.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen also directed members to set the highest standards in practicing the teachings of Islam, so that its values remain firmly instilled in future generations. He warned those Ahmadis who do not remain attached to their faith that their own lives will be squandered and their future generations will be lost to the materialistic world.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih began his address by reminding those in attendance that, although they have grown up in Western society, they are distinct from their counterparts because their parents, prior to their birth, dedicated their future lives for the sake of their faith. As such, they must constantly strive to learn and act upon the teachings of Islam.

Speaking about the importance of the five daily prayers, Huzoor stated,

“You must offer Salat sincerely and in a state of complete submission to Allah the Almighty and not in a hurried way just so you can claim to have fulfilled your obligation... Certainly, the foremost aspiration of any member of Waqf-e-Nau, indeed of any true Muslim, and of any person who has pledged their life to the service of Islam, should be to attain the nearness of Allah the Almighty.”

Huzoor proceeded to explain that the Holy Qur’an contains universal, comprehensive, and relevant teachings which provide the answer to every charge or accusation made against Islam. As such, Ahmadi



Muslim women must read and understand the perfect teachings that Allah the Almighty has bestowed upon us in the blessed shape of the Holy Qur’an.

“Just as the Holy Qur’an was relevant and worthy of practice 1400 years ago, it remains the same today. Therefore, all Waqfat-e-Nau must entirely eliminate from their minds the belief that Islam is an ‘old-fashioned’ religion or somehow backward. Instead of being a religion of the past, it is a religion of today and tomorrow and will remain until the end of time, Insha’Allah.”

Huzoor Aqdas directed members to read the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) in order to understand the Holy Qur’an’s meanings and to defend Islam.

“In this era, it is only by reading the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and his Khulafa (successors) that we can truly compre-

hend our faith and respond to those who level false allegations against Islam... You must make it a habit to set aside time every day to read the books or writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) as they will furnish you with the necessary means to defend your religion."

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V pointed out that Ahmadi Muslim girls should remain proud of their faith and never fall prey to the belief that Islam was not relevant or in touch with modern society.

"Never entertain the thought that your religion is somehow backward or out of touch with the modern world. Conversely, the more you take pride in your religion and the more you live your lives according to the teachings of Islam, the more others will respect you and this is how your honour and dignity will be established in the world."

He advised Ahmadi Muslim women to take pride in their faith and never harbour *"any form of inferiority complex"* about their faith.

"There is no Islamic teaching that should cause any complex or apprehension to emerge in your minds. Never worry for a second that others might taunt you or consider you to be a laughing stock because of your religious beliefs. If they mock, let them!"

Huzoor Aqdas noted that some young Ahmadi Muslims, particularly teenagers *"feel humiliated and rejected"* due to the ridicule they witness of their religious beliefs in the wider society.

Guiding the youth to keep their *"head held high"* in such circumstances, Hazrat Amirul Momineen advised,

"If you are ever mocked for acting upon your religion you should never take it as a personal humiliation, rather you should consider it to be a badge of honour and feel pride in the knowledge that you have stayed strong in your faith in the face of adversity. Showing patience and keeping your head held high in such circumstances is the true means of establishing your honour and self-respect in the world."

Analysing the state of Western society, Hazrat

Amirul Momineen commented that most people have lost their true religious identity and of those who still identify as Christians, many are not following its teachings.

"In the name of so-called 'freedom', today's society considers itself to be extremely advanced and progressive and believe they have reached the height of civilisation. Yet, in reality, as society has moved away from religion, moral standards have declined in parallel. In terms of morality and virtue, instead of advancing, modern societies are suffering from deep decay. By separating from God Almighty, humanity is rapidly moving away from basic standards of common decency."

As an example of the moral decay associated with a separation from God, Huzoor pointed towards the breakdown of the family system. He said it has become normalised for children to disrespect their parents, all in the name of *'freedom'* and *'independence'*, thus threatening the family unit.

Increasingly, Huzoor mentioned, children are being taken into care homes or local authorities and police are being called to resolve domestic issues.

"Is it a measure of success if more children are being taken into social care or if the authorities are being required to act? Is this progress? Is this development? Is this the great achievement of our time? Now, belatedly, society is starting to understand the harmful consequences of absolute freedom."

Speaking about the importance of maintaining a peaceful family unit, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V said,

"Always remember that the peace of society is directly connected to the peace within families within that society. Peace in the home is based on good morals and mutual respect between a husband and his wife and between the parents and their children."

Huzoor reminded the members of *Waqf-e Nau* that they must manifest high morals at all times and fulfil the rights of their parents and other family members and seek to make their home a *"mirror reflection of Islam's teachings."*



“Never entertain the thought that your religion is somehow backward or out of touch with the modern world. Conversely, the more you take pride in your religion and the more you live your lives according to the teachings of Islam, the more others will respect you and this is how your honour and dignity will be established in the world.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen further reminded the parents of *Waqf-e-Nau* children about their responsibilities and stated,

“I also wish to remind the parents of Waqf-e-Nau children that they must continually reflect upon the fact that they have pledged their children for the sake of Islam and so if they do not set a pious example for their children they will have failed to discharge their duties.”

Huzoor also said that many women who are members of the *Waqf-e-Nau* scheme are now mothers themselves and so they must set a personal example of piety for their children to follow and learn from.

“The high status of women in Islam is such that it is only through their noble efforts that the coming generations will remain attached to their faith. Only if mothers play their crucial roles can the great values of our religion remain firmly instilled in our future generations. Otherwise, we could suffer the same fate as other religious communities, who have lost their traditions and values over time.”

Huzoor Aqdas pointed out that if mothers do not play their vital role, then Mosques too will “become empty and hollow shells” just as the places of worship of other faiths. However, he said that this will not be the case with the Mosques of the Jama’at because it is the promise of Allah the Almighty that Islam will remain a living religion and it is for this purpose that the Jama’at was established by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), to revive the true peaceful

message of Islam.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen emphasised the need for members of *Waqf-e-Nau* to hold true to Islamic principles in the best manner and said:

“Always remember that, for both believing men and believing women, it is necessary to keep righteousness at the forefront of your mind, which means to strive towards attaining every form of goodness and virtue. Thus, endeavour to be the most truthful, the most hard-working and most faithful servants of Islam. Consider it your lifelong duty to spread the true message of Islam.”

Concluding his address, Huzoor prayed saying,

“May you nurture the generation that lies in your laps in a way that ensures that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community’s spiritual, moral and intellectual standards continue to rise and that no Ahmadi Muslim child moves away from the teachings of Islam and wastes their life.”

This event on the first day reserved for women and girls of *Waqfat Nau* concluded with a silent prayer led by Huzoor Aqdas.

Adapted from a press release issued by the Press & Media Office of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama’at.



The second day of the Waqfe Nau Ijtemas was dedicated to the men and boys of the scheme. The Ijtema was held on Sunday 7th April and was honoured with the presence of Hazrat Amirul Momineen who addressed the 1700 strong audience which included 1400 Waqfe Nau.

In his address, Huzoor reminded the Waqf-e-Nau that they must fulfil their sacred pledge to serve Islam in every aspect of their lives. He advised them to bring about pious changes in their lives that would enable them to fulfil the rights of Allah the Almighty and His Creation.

Huzoor Aqdas began his address by explaining that every *Waqfe Nau* should understand that his *Waqf* is only of real value if he has established a sincere connection with Allah the Almighty through the worship of Allah and the five daily prayers.

Huzoor expressed disappointment with those *Waqf-e-Nau* who claimed to have given their lives for the sake of Islam, but are unable to even offer the five daily prayers regularly. He stated,

“Never mind offering the five daily prayers in congregation, there are some who, upon being asked, admit that they do not even offer the five daily prayers regularly. What is the purpose and benefit of such a Waqf? On the one hand, they have pledged their lives for the sake of Allah the Almighty. Yet, on the other hand, they remain

neglectful of that part of their religion, the worship of Allah, which, after the declaration of faith, is the most fundamental obligation upon any Muslim.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen proceeded to emphasize that it is critical for all *Waqf-e-Nau* to strive to act upon all the commands of Allah the Almighty and to fulfil the rights of one another. He pointed out that it is not merely enough for *Waqf-e-Nau* to know their faith, but they must practice it at a much higher standard than others,

“You should never sit back in contentment merely because your name is included in the list of the Waqf-e-Nau. Rather, you must understand the scale of your responsibilities and your everlasting obligation to your faith. At all times, it is your duty to better your moral standards and to increase your religious knowledge.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V drew the attention of the *Waqfeen* to the wishes and expectations that the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) held of those who pledged their lives for the sake of Islam. He detailed how the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) taught that those who associated themselves with him should devote their lives to their faith in the same way he did. The Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) taught that *Waqf* requires one to strive and



struggle to reach that point where they can sincerely claim that their life, their death, their sacrifices and their prayers are all for the sake of Allah the Almighty.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen went on to advise,

“You should understand that even though you are living in a Western society, you must live your lives in an Islamic way seeking to attain the pleasure of Allah the Almighty. You must resolutely keep hold of your religious values and traditions. You must bring about those pious changes in your life that will enable you to fulfil the rights of Allah the Almighty and His Creation. You must always seek to improve and better yourself and to raise your spiritual and moral standards and increase your knowledge.”

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad directed the *Waqf-e-Nau* to keep the great personal example of the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*) firmly within sight at all times. He said,

“During his life, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) devoted his every day and every night for the sake of Islam. Till his final breath, every moment of the Promised Messiah’s (peace be upon him) life was spent in fulfilling his divine mission to revive and spread the true teachings of Islam throughout the world.”

Stating that it was the task of *Waqf-e-Nau* to follow in the blessed footsteps of the Promised Messiah (*peace be upon him*), Huzoor asserted,

“I have no doubt that if the members of Waqf-e-Nau are able to collectively follow his example even to a very small degree they will be able to bring about a spiritual and moral revolution in the world.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V highlighted Prophet Abraham (*peace be upon him*) as a role model for the *Waqf-e-Nau* to emulate. Referring to chapter 53, verse 38 of the Holy Qur’an, Huzoor said,

“This verse means that the Prophet Abraham (peace be upon him) fulfilled the pledge he made to God Almighty with complete obedience and loyalty and, as a result, was the recipient of the love of His Creator. Now it is up to all of you to fulfil the sacred covenant you have made with Allah the Almighty. To do so is not an easy or simple thing. The pledge of a life devotee and of a Waqf-e-Nau is a vast and everlasting undertaking. It is to give away your life for the sake of your faith.”

Explaining how *Waqf-e-Nau* families should endeavour to achieve and act by the true spirit of *Waqf*, rather than being proud over mere titles,



“You should never sit back in contentment merely because your name is included in the list of the Waqf-e-Nau. Rather, you must understand the scale of your responsibilities and your everlasting obligation to your faith. At all times, it is your duty to better your moral standards and to increase your religious knowledge.”



Hazrat Amirul Momineen listed many attributes that should be displayed in the character of a *Waqf-e-Nau* including the display of good manners, remaining humble and the showing of care and love to near ones. Placing particular importance on maintaining a high standard of worship, Huzoor instructed,

“You must be diligent in offering Salat in congregation and you should recite the Holy Qur’an every day. Only then can you call yourself a true Waqf-e-Nau. Alongside the obligatory prayers, the older Waqf-e-Nau boys should offer Nafil (voluntary) prayers regularly. Only then can you call yourself a true Waqf-e-Nau.”

Concluding his address, Hazrat Amirul Momineen prayed,

“May Allah the Almighty enable all of you to understand your duties and responsibilities and to fulfil the demands of Waqf in the very best way. May Allah the Almighty enable you to continue to increase your knowledge and understanding of your faith.”

And,

“May He grant you the capability to elevate your moral and spiritual standards and may He enable you to continually increase your service to the Jama’at and to fulfil your pledge with true sincerity. Ameen.”

The event was brought to a close with a silent prayer led by His Holiness.

(Adapted from a press release issued by the Press & Media Office of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama’at.)

Photos from Waqfe Nau Ijtema – Sunday 7th April 2019



“May Allah the Almighty enable all of you to understand your duties and responsibilities and to fulfil the demands of Waqf in the very best way. May Allah the Almighty enable you to continue to increase your knowledge and understanding of your faith.”
 (Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V)



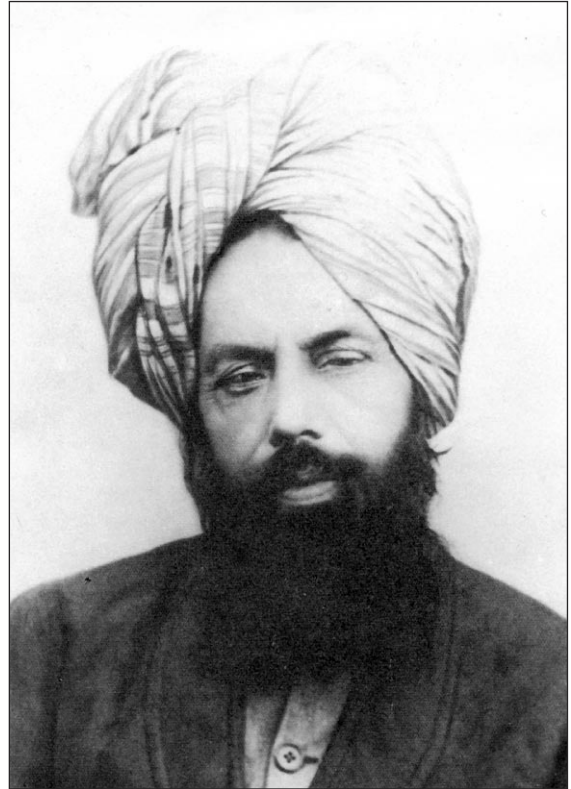
PROMISED MESSIAH (Peace be upon him) DAY

Promised Messiah Days were held all over the country on the 22nd and 23rd of March. In London a Regional event took place at the Baitul Futuh Mosque on the 23rd immediately after Asr prayers at 5.30 pm.

It began with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an of verses 1-5 from Surah Juma by Mr Fazl Ahmad Tahir after which verses from a poem of the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) were recited by Mr Abdul Hayee Sarmad.

The first speech was delivered by Maulana Zeeshan Khalid on the topic of *The mission of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)*. In this the speaker explained how the advent of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) took place in accordance with the prophecy of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as indicated by the Qur'anic verses of surah Juma that had been recited and the subsequent conversation with the Companions. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had explained that when *Iman* (faith) would have ascended to the Pleiades, a man from these (placing his hand on the shoulder of Salman the Persian) would restore it to the earth.

The next speaker was Maulana Raheel Ahmad. His topic was *'Rising of the Sun from the West and the Message of the Promised Messiah to the West.'* In this the speaker described the innumerable services for Islam rendered by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). He had valiantly promoted the teachings of Islam throughout his life. He was the one, when Muslim divines were lost in slumber and Christians were daring to dream of planting the flag of Christendom in Makkah and Medina, who rose to defend the honour of Islam. With the Jihad of the pen he shook the foundations of Christianity. News of his efforts reached the shores of Great Britain, Europe



and America. This is illustrated by the fact that lectures about him were actually delivered here in the UK. For example Rev. Dr Harvey Griswold alone delivered two such lectures. The first in 1902 on *The Mahdi Messiah of Qadian*, and the second on *The Messiah of Qadian* – a paper presented to the Victoria Institute on 15th May 1905.

It was the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) who on 7th December, twenty days before the second Jalsa Salana, issued a pamphlet in which he outlined the objectives of the Jalsa Salana and also mentioned that in this Jalsa Salana we should examine ways to improve the religious/spiritual condition of the people of Europe and America. His meetings with such individuals as DD Dixon and Professor Clement Raig showed how passionate he was to witness the fulfilment of the prophecy of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that the sun will rise from the West.

There was a short interlude from the main subject of the Jalsa at this point, when Secretary Jaidad UK Mr Irfan Quraishi, gave an update on the reconstruction project of Baitul Futuh. Then Regional Amir Naseer Dean briefed the members on the 10 Mosque project for London and Maulana Naseem Bajwa urged members to participate fully in this endeavour.



The programme resumed with a recitation of a poem by Mr Usman Ahmad after which the Amir UK gave the concluding address. In this he drew from a recent sermon of Huzoor Aqdas and mentioned how Hazrat Nizamudin came to accept the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) because he was pious and basically good natured. He may have been an Arab from a staunch non-Ahmadi family but did not care about the opposition that would be unleashed. Amir Sahib expressed his dismay at the attitude of some non-Ahmadi Muslims against the Jama'at. Despite the fact that the advent of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) was in accordance with the prophecy of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and he attained prophethood through his absolute belief and subservience to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), opponents do not desist from persisting in their opposition and oppression. Amir Sahib then again turned to the sermons of Huzoor in which he had described the conduct expected of an Ahmadi. Does he regularly offer his five daily prayers? Does he abide by all the commandments of the Holy Qur'an? Does he say *darood* daily? Does he demonstrate his absolute allegiance to Khilafat and urge his children to do likewise? If the answer to these is yes then something has been achieved. If not then this should be a cause of grave concern.

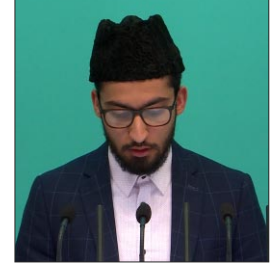
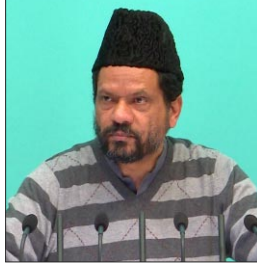
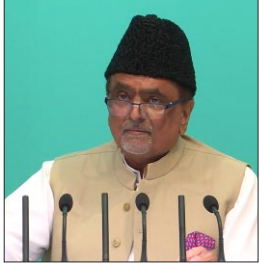
Amir Sahib also warned about speaking against office bearers of the Jama'at in the home. This will

poison the minds of our children he admonished. What is the standard in our treatment of our children and of our spouses he asked. All these are important considerations because what we do today, our children will follow tomorrow. Cleanse your hearts of all kinds of ill feeling he urged. If you forgive anyone, then do not harbour a grudge against them. We have the examples of our Khulafa before us. We should develop an atmosphere of love and affection in our homes. We are extremely fortunate to have the blessed institution of Khilafat among us and the least we can do is to listen attentively to Huzoor's sermon and urge our children to do the same. After this, Amir Sahib brought the proceedings to a close by leading everyone in a silent prayer.

The attendance was 2,200 in total of which 1,250 were men and 950 were ladies.

Promised Messiah Days were also held in other Jama'ats. In Gillingham for instance, speakers focussed on various aspects of the life of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) at a gathering in the Nasir Mosque of 120 on the 24th of March. A day earlier 52 members of the Nottingham Jama'at met at their local Baitul Hafeez Mosque discussing the Promised Messiah's love for the Holy Qur'an and the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

MUSLEH MAUD JALSAS



This year once again Musleh Ma'ud Jalsas were held all over the UK in February. On the 24th the London Regions organised their function at Baitul Futuh after Asr prayers. It was attended by a total of 1,750 people of which 950 were men and 800 were ladies.

Proceedings began with a recitation of a portion of the Holy Qur'an and its translation by Mr Faizan Ahmad Rajpoot. Next Mr Khalid Ahmad Chughtai presented a few verses from a poem of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

The first speaker was Maulana Raheel Ahmad who read out the words of the Prophecy of the Musleh Ma'ud in its original Urdu before giving its translation in English. Then Maulana Tahir Ahmad Khalid spoke in English on the subject entitled *Background to the Prophecy of Musleh Ma'ud and its Importance*.

This was followed by an Urdu speech by Maulana

Ikhlq Anjum on the *Achievements of Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud*. Maulana Qamr Ahmad Zafar then repeated the words of that prayer of Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud which Huzoor Aqdas had mentioned in his recent Friday sermon.

There was a short break from the main subject of the gathering where a video was shown describing the redevelopment taking place of the Baitul Futuh complex.

In his concluding address Amir Sahib reminded members to listen regularly to the sermons of Hazrat Amirul Momineen and warned parents to be wary of the use of mobile phones by their children. Amir Sahib then reiterated some of the points made by Huzoor Aqdas in his recent sermon. The event was finally brought to a close with a silent prayer led by Amir Sahib.

Other Musleh Ma'ud Jalsas

As mentioned other Musleh Ma'ud Jalsas also took place during February in the UK. Listed below are a few of them.

DONCASTER

In Doncaster 27 members gathered at the Community Hall in Scawsby on 16th February at noon. Proceedings began with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Mr Shoaib Ahmad followed with its translation by Mr Haseeb Ahmad. The first speech was delivered in Urdu by Mr Naseem Ahmad on the subject of the Prophecy of Musleh Ma'ud. This was followed with an English discourse by Maulana Aneeq ur Rehman. The final speech was in English on another aspect of the Prophecy of Musleh Ma'ud. The meeting was brought to a close with a silent prayer after which Zohr prayers were offered followed by Lunch.

SHEFFIELD

The Sheffield Jama'at organised its Musleh Ma'ud day at its local Baitul Affiyat Mosque on 17th February. Some 85 people were in attendance including 40 men and Atfal and 45 Lajna and Nasirat. Proceedings began at noon with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an and a poem. The words of the Prophecy were then read out in its original Urdu. A number of



speeches followed. The first was on *'Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud In the Eyes of Non-Ahmadis'* followed by another discourse in English on *'Different Aspects of the Character of Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud'*. Murabi Sahib gave an address in Urdu after which the proceedings were brought to a close at 1.30 pm with a silent prayer. Zohr and Asr prayers followed after which food was served to all.

ALDERSHOT

On Wednesday 20th February, 90 members of the Aldershot Jama'at including men, women and children gathered for the Musleh Ma'ud Day at the Crondall Village Hall in Farnham. Proceedings commenced with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an and a poem after which the actual words of the Prophecy were read out. Maulana Hafiz Tayyab Ahmad was the first speaker. He expounded on the topic of *'Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud's Services For the Youth of The Jama'at'*. This speech was in English and was followed with an Urdu talk by Mr Mahmood Malik who spoke on *'Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud's Life At Home & Kindness to Women'*. The proceedings concluded with a silent prayer led by Maulana Abdul Majeed Sialkoti.

BIRMINGHAM WEST

One hundred and fifty six people congregated at the Baitul Ghafoor Mosque on Wednesday 20th February for the Musleh Ma'ud Jalsa. Speeches were delivered by Maulana Aqueel Sahib and Dr Abdul Rahim focusing on the life and achievements of Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud.



MOSQUE EAST

In addition to Musleh Ma'ud Days held at the Regional level in London some Jama'ats also convened to hold this locally as well. The Mosque East Jama'at drew a gathering of 125 at its event at the Fazl Mosque on 20th February. After the preliminaries, the Prophecy was read out in English after which Dr Tariq Bajwa spoke on the *Achievements of Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud*. The meeting lasted for an hour and ended with a silent prayer.

NOTTINGHAM

The Nottingham Jama'at held a Musleh Ma'ud Day at its Baitul Hafeez Mosque on the evening of Wednesday 20th February. 56 people attended. Proceedings started at 7 pm with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an and a poem. Three speeches followed. The first was in Urdu and dealt with the actual prophecy after which a speech was delivered on the *Life and Achievements of Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud*. The final speech drew attention of the members to our responsibilities in relation to this grand prophecy. A short Q&A session followed after which a silent prayer brought the proceedings to a close at 8.15 pm.



WALTON ON THAMES

Forty five people gathered for the Musleh Ma'ud Jalsa organised by the Walton on Thames Jama'at on Sunday 3rd March. The venue was the Hersham Centre in Hersham village. Maulana Mansoor Ahmad Zia addressed the audience on the Prophecy of Musleh Ma'ud elaborating on its impact and fulfilment. Proceedings had begun with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an immediately after Mughrib prayers and concluded with Isha prayers and dinner afterwards.

ANNUAL DINNER

TI COLLEGE OLD STUDENTS ASSOCIATION UK



The annual dinner of the Talimul Islam College Old Students Association (TICOSA) took place on 31st March 2019.

There had been extensive planning for the event and an elaborate photographic display had been put up on one part of the Tahir Hall. A section for the ladies was also organised.

Members started to come in after Asr prayers. At 6 pm a preliminary session was started off with a basketball match. It was enjoyed by spectators and participants alike and keenly contested, but ended up in a draw.

The main proceedings began at 7 pm under the chairmanship of Dr Iftikhar Ahmad Ayaz with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Dr Tariq Ahmad Bajwa. The President of TICOSA UK, Mr Mubarik Ahmad Siddiqi then presented his annual report covering the activities of the Association during the year after which Mr Bashir Ahmad Akhtar gave a detailed account of his visit to Africa and the primary school there which had been established by TICOSA UK. Next Dr Abdul Bary Malik spoke on the achievements of TICOSA UK.

In his speech Dr Ayaz, reminded members of the purpose and objectives of the Association. He also



acknowledged the financial sacrifices made by members towards its cause. Maulana Ataul Mujeeb Rashed then addressed the event. In his speech he further elaborated on the efforts of TICOSA and drew the attention of the audience of the importance of

Khilafat and how vital it was for it to remain a guiding light for TICOSA's progress in the future.

There was an interlude at this stage during which an absorbing bait baazi competition took place. This was between two teams, one led by Mr Asif Ali Pervaiz and the other by Mr Hafiz Masood Ahmad. This too, like the Basketball match, ended up in a draw.

Maghrib prayers followed after which everyone convened again in the Tahir Hall for the final session. This was chaired by the Amir UK Mr Rafiq Ahmed Hayat. Proceedings commenced with a recitation from the Holy Qur'an by Mr Naseer Shah followed with a poem by Mr Ataul Aala Zafar. In his address, Amir Sahib spoke about the efforts of TICOSA UK. He encouraged them further and expressed his appreciation of what they had achieved. Distribution of prizes took place next after which a photo session took place and dinner was served.

PAAMA National Ijtema 2019 by Ahad Bhunno

The third PAAMA National Ijtema was held on Saturday 30th March 2019. The theme for the Ijtema was “Brotherhood” as chosen by Huzoor. Simultaneous events for Lajna, Nasirat, Ansar, Khuddam, and Atfal in academic and sporting competitions took place in the Baitul Futuh complex as well as the adjoining park. Despite the logistic complexities involved, 158 men and boys and 148 women and girls, successfully participated in a wide variety of programmes during the day.

The Ijtema started with registration, breakfast and a combined Opening Session for all members following which academic competitions commenced across all *Tanzeemat* and ages groups. Lunch after combined Zuhr and Asr prayers were followed by sporting events and activities. By the Grace of Allah, all key events were concluded successfully, thanks largely to the hard work and dedication of the Ijtema Committee. It is noteworthy that despite receiving the sad news of the demise of her mother in Nigeria that same morning, Mrs Faosat Sanni, the Head of Lajna of PAAMA UK, decided nevertheless to attend the proceedings.

The concluding session was chaired by Mr Rafiq Hayat, Amir UK, who presented prizes to the winners, as well as the Ismael B.K. Addo Awards to those members who had attained excellence in their academic education. In his Ijtema Report, Mr Tommy Kallon, President PAAMA UK expressed his profound gratitude to Huzoor for his approval to hold this Ijtema and for all his immense love and continued guidance to the Association.



Peterborough Vigil – By Hasib Zafar

Majlis Peterborough arranged a solidarity event in response to the attacks in New Zealand that had taken place on 15th March. All members including families gathered in the Peterborough town centre. The Mayor of Peterborough, other Muslim and non Muslim community representatives and a few from the local council also attended. The event was covered by the local newspaper, two radio stations and two you tube channels including one Arabic channel.



Mosque Open Day – By Fatihul Haq, President Huddersfield South

The Huddersfield South Jama'at organised a Mosque Open Day on 9th March 2019 at Bait us Samad. Members from all walks of life including the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire David Dinmore and other faith leaders attended. The local Jama'at President said: *“Our moto is love for all and hatred for none, we aim to build a relationship of trust, friendship and respect across the communities and show the true and peaceful face of Islam through this initiative.”*

Visitors were able to view exhibitions, go on mosque tours, discuss various aspects of the teachings of Islam with members of the Jama'at as well as take away with them informative books and other literature including translations of the Holy Qur'an.



Hartlepool Mosque Open Day

(By Farhan Ali Tabligh Secretary Hartlepool)



On Saturday 30th March 2019 an Open Day was organised at the Nasir Mosque, Hartlepool. In the planning of the event, a lot of work was done to make this programme successful. A very positive campaign of leafleting was undertaken by members of the Hartlepool Jama'at. A special flyer, prepared by Maulana Tahir Selby, was distributed along with the traditional peace leaflet. Members went to many different streets in Hartlepool, especially those around the Mosque and gave out flyers at the town centre. Tabligh Secretary Farhan Ali contacted the public places such as libraries, supermarkets, post office, government organisations and few others where he advertised the Open Day and put posters on their advertisement boards. A special banner about the Day was put up outside the Mosque from the previous Sunday for one week till the Open Day had concluded.

An extensive publicity initiative was also organised on social media in which Facebook and Twitter were the highlights of the campaign. *Hartlepool Alert*, *Town of Hartlepool* (which gives news around the Hartlepool area), most of the churches in Hartlepool and local organizations featured the Jama'at's flyer on their Facebook page. Local newspapers *Hartlepool Mail* and *Hartlepool Life* mentioned the event a week before which was read by thousands of people and raised awareness about Islam Ahmadiyyat and the Nasir Mosque in Hartlepool.

A lot of individual invitations were also handed out by Jama'at members. These invitations were given to school teachers, GP, neighbours, nearby shopkeepers, college teachers and others and some of the contacts who we met previously during the leafleting. Lajna also actively took part in inviting guests to the event.



The Open Day itself ran from 10.00 am till 4.00 pm. People began arriving from 9.30 am. By the Grace of Allah 134 guests attended throughout the day with the last guest leaving at 4:40 pm.

For the purpose of the Open Day the area was divided into different zones, with Maulana Tahir Selby staying in the mosque, explaining about it, about the Qur'an exhibition on display and also the pull-up banners which were also put up inside the Mosque. In this way, he was able to explain in detail about the Mosque, Islamic teachings and the Jama'at.

Then the guests were taken into the library where Mr Farhan Ali gave a tour inside the premises, explaining the exhibition boards and other books on display. Guests were then taken for refreshments and further talks. The lady guests were guided upstairs to the Ladies section of the mosque where the Lajna welcomed these guests and shared refreshments and discussions with them. There were also some exhibition boards on display there. In addition arrangements for Henna – temporary tattoos - for ladies and children were in place. Many members

helped out speaking to the guests.

Guests were provided on request certain books. These included 'Selected verses of Holy Qur'an', 'Sayings of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon Him)' 'Sayings of Promised Messiah (Peace be upon Him)' and 'World Crisis & Pathway to Peace' and some other free literature. A few requested a copy of the 'Holy Qur'an' while others asked for

'Death on the Cross', 'Jesus in India' and 'Christianity, Facts to Fiction' which were duly provided.

All the guests who came were very happy to visit the mosque and the feedback received was very positive. Many wrote very encouraging remarks promising to visit the mosque again at future events. Some of the comments recorded are listed below:

David J wrote: "Very Interesting and welcoming".

J Scotland wrote: "Very informative & Interesting and met lovely people"

Jeff C wrote: "Such a valuable experience which more people should experience. It has separated popular belief from the true "Love for all Hatred for None" way of the religion"

Niel B wrote: "Informative, friendly, hospitable and the food was very delicious, thank you".

Amy D wrote: "Very well explained, Food was delicious and people were amazingly courteous, thank you".



Mosque Visits at Baitul Futuh

(By Waleed Ahmad)

The Baitul Futuh Mosque serves as a beautiful landmark for the capital city. Being the largest mosque in Western Europe it attracts many visitors. Since its inception a special team of tour guides has been formed to receive visitors, show them around and answer questions about the Jama'at and Islam in general. On many an occasion individuals or groups just drop in, while on other occasions people have been more thorough and booked in advance.

Interest From Schools & Universities

Much interest has been shown by schools and Universities over the years. In fact each academic year over 4,000 school children visit the building and this number continues to grow. Undergraduate students have come from various educational institutions in the UK such as the University of Chichester, Kings College, Imperial College, University of East London etc, and there has also been interest from abroad as far as from the University of Kentucky in the United States who visited a while ago.

When visits first started soon after the Mosque was built, guests were taken around on an ad hoc basis by anyone and everyone. This had its limitations and even led to complaints where enthusiasm had got the better of those who were escorting. As a result, at

Baitul Futuh, official tour guides are utilised, who are specially trained to avoid such difficulties.

In the months of March and April this year over a thousand school children visited the mosque – 621 came in March accompanied by 38 adults and 523 visited in April with 28 adults. School parties are provided refreshments, given a tour and informed about the mosque and the Jama'at. Conscious attempts are made to make the visit memorable and enjoyable. Long monologues by guides are avoided and an interactive atmosphere is encouraged. It is always a challenge to pitch a tour and what is said, at the right level to retain the interest of the children who come – and they come from a wide age range with some as young as 5.

Finn Visitors

The Mosque also receives visits from adult groups. On 18th March seventeen 16-19 year olds from Helsinki made this Mosque as one of their 'must see' sites when coming to the UK. Their tour of the mosque was supplemented with a presentation and a session where their questions were answered. It was a frank exchange and included discussions on Islamophobia, the rise of the far right and the way Islam is perceived in the Nordic countries.

Visit from the University of Wales

Later on 2nd April the Mosque received a visit from 12 students and 2 lecturers of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. All were religious studies academics and were prepared for an in depth experience.

They were received just before Zohr and taken to observe the prayers from the balcony before being escorted to the dining hall where the Ziafat department served lunch to the party.

A visit to the bookshop ensued and, being students studying religion, a number of purchases were made enthusiastically.

The group then collected in the Library where they were told about the Jama'at, and in particular about the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and Khilafat. Questions were taken, including those on LGBT issues, socio political attitudes and matters relating to Islamaphobia. Students were able to view the exhibition at their leisure before being taken for tea and coffee.

A detailed tour of the mosque was then made. The two lecturers were each presented with a copy of the translation of the Holy Qur'an and Introduction to the study of the Holy Qur'an. The University was given a translation with commentary of the Holy Qur'an. The students did not go empty handed. Each was given a copy of the *Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam* by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and Huzoor's book *World Crisis and Pathway To Peace*.

The party departed at 5.20 pm just before Asr prayers.

The students and lecturers were demonstrably pleased with their visit finding it had far exceeded their expectations. A note received from their lead afterwards reflected their feelings (see below)

One student is in contact with the Jama'at in Cardiff. Her dissertation is on *Islamic communities of Wales*. She said the part relating to the Jama'at was definitely going to be her favourite to do.



Dear Waleed,

*Just a short note to thank you for your hospitality last Tuesday. I am extremely grateful to you for giving us so much of your time, and it was exceedingly generous of the mosque to not only feed us but to present both staff and students with books to take away (I am enjoying working my way through *Christianity: A Journey from Facts to Fiction*). We really did have wonderful afternoon - the students didn't stop talking about our visit all week!*

As a more formal way of extending our thanks, I have arranged for the University to donate a book to the mosque's library. It should be with you within the next few days.

Hopefully, we'll be able to arrange another visit at some point in the near future. In the meantime, please find attached a handful of photos from last Tuesday's visit.

Thanks once again,

Rhodri

Film Interest

The month of April also saw an interest taken by a film company called Déjà vu Dubai who sought permission to take footage of our Mosques - Baitul Futuh and Fazl Mosques. This was for the Royal Commission for Makkah City and the Holy Sites. The project was to demonstrate that at any given time during the day, worship of Allah is taking place in a mosque in some part of the world. For London, it was the Jama'at's two mosques that were selected.

Although the footage to be used was no more than half an hour, meticulous planning was undertaken by the Company and huge vans of crew and equipment

Visit to Baitul Futuh – (By Muhammad Usama)

Two non-Ahmadi guests attended the Baitul Futuh mosque for the Friday sermon on 12th April. One was from Morocco and the other from Iraq. They were pleasantly received, given a tour of the mosque and provided with some books. They were also treated to a meal. Mr Rafiq Arif of the national Tabligh team facilitated this meeting. The visitors were overjoyed and promised to visit again.



European Football Tournament

Majlis-e-Sehat UK organized the second European Football Tournament in London on 19th, 20th and 21st April. The event started on Friday with an opening session that took place in Baitul Futuh. Teams taking part were then divided into 3 groups as follows:

- Group A:** UK A, Germany A, Germany B, Bulgaria
- Group B:** UK B, PAAMA, Fazle Umar, Denmark, Sweden
- Group C:** Jamia UK, Ireland, Belgium, Holland, Jamia Germany

Over the course of Saturday and Sunday all of the Group Stage matches and quarter finals were played at the Surrey Sports Park. Each game consisted of 40 minutes and in total 30 Matches were played. On Monday 22nd April the semi finals and final took place at the Carshalton FC Stadium.

Semi Final 1: Germany A vs UK B Score was 3-0

Semi Final 2: UK A vs PAAMA score was 4-0

The prizes awarded were as follows:

Player of the Tournament: Omar Nija (Germany A)

Golden Boot: Ahmad Butt (Holland)

Golden Glove: Rameez Ahmed (Germany A)

Fair Play Award: Denmark

Runners-up: UK A

The final was played between Germany A and UK A. It was tightly contested match with chances on both sides, but it was Germany who prevailed with a single goal. All the matches were played in a good spirit. The closing session was presided by Amir Sahib UK who had given his full support to the event by addressing the opening session, watching some of the play and giving the concluding address.

The highlight of the event was a photo session with Huzoor Anwar and a full report of the tournament will be published in the next edition.

By the Grace of Allah all arrangements and the matches went smoothly and there were no serious issues. The organisers plan to repeat the event again next year – only this time it is expected that many more teams will be invited and the tournament will be much bigger than before inshallah.



**Winners of the Ahmadiyya European Football Tournament 2019:
Germany A**

**Working in
London and need
to know where to
offer Jumuah
prayers ?**



**Our main service is
at Quaker Friends
Meeting House, serving
the City of London
where daily Zuhr
prayers are also offered
Monday - Thursday.**

DAILY ZUHR NAMAZ SERVICE

Monday/Tues/Weds and Thurs at **Bunhill Meeting Room**
at 1330 promptly.

Contact Kaleem Edwards on **07973 782 807** or email
mrchrisedwards@gmail.com

**Bunhill Meeting House Quaker Court, Banner Street,
London EC1Y 8QQ.**

www.quaker.org.uk/meetings/bunhill-fields
average attendance 8-12

FRIDAY JUMUA OPTIONS (IN ORDER OF SIZE OF CONGREGATION)

Bunhill Meeting House Quaker Court, Banner Street, London EC1Y 8QQ

Bunhill Meeting House can be found through a
rectangular archway off Banner Street, (see 'Bunhill
Meeting House' sign) a short walk from Old Street
Underground station.

www.quaker.org.uk/meetings/bunhill-fields

First Adhan from 13:10 • Khutba from 13:15 and
salaat at 13:30 – (we aim to finish about 13:40)

Contact: Kaleem Edwards on **07973 782 807** or
email: **mrchrisedwards@gmail.com**

Average attendance 30-40

Green Park – Green Park centre's address is no longer at EME Capital. 1.15pm at St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL

Venue booking in the name of AMA UK, starting
from 1pm to 2pm in 'The Meeting Room'. The sign
'AMA Friday Congregation' will be displayed on the
railings where members will enter.

Contact: Mansur Mannan on **07920 008 939** or
email **mansur@dar-capital.com**

Average attendance 30-40

Docklands – 5 mins from South Quay station on DLR which is couple of stops from Canary Wharf – Island House Community Centre, Roserton St, London E14 3PG

First Adhan from 13:00 • Second Adhan from 13:10
Khutba from 13:15.

www.island-house.org.uk/

Contact: Imran Yusuf on **07881 019 878** or email
ama_cw@googlegroups.com

There is a whatsapp group for members

Average attendance 12-20

Imperial College with the students (term time only) – Chaplaincy Multi-Faith Centre, 10 Prince's Gardens, London SW7 1NA. Located in the Multi- Faith Centre of Imperial College.

www3.imperial.ac.uk/chaplaincy/contactus

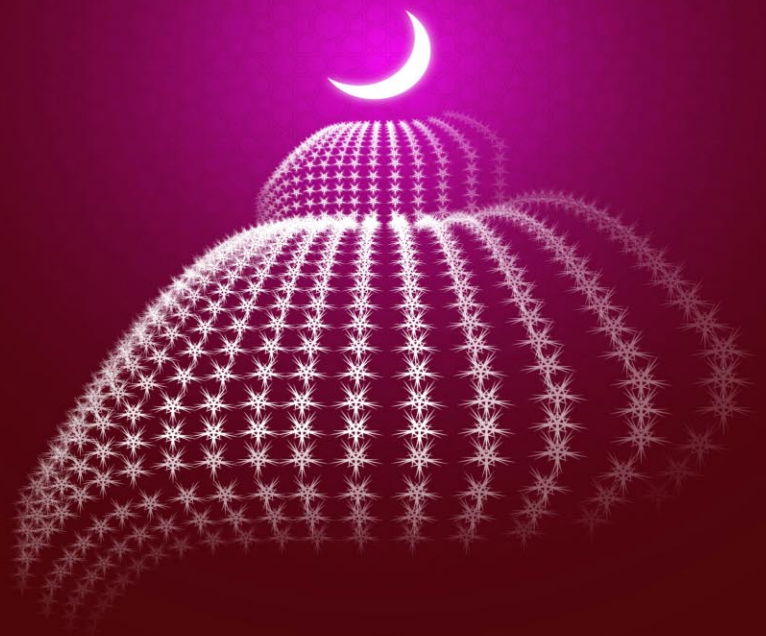
From South Kensington tube station it is about a 10
minute walk. Out of the turnstiles turn right and
enter and follow the tunnel till the end and then
turn left. Keep walking down, past the big glass
building of Imperial College. Turn right onto Prince's
Gardens. The Centre is no.11, past the Ethos gym.

If you are coming please text beforehand so we can
allow you into the building, or update you if there
has been a change of time. This is essential, as
sometimes the time is shifted according to the
availability of students.

Contact: Arsam Mahmood on **07480 852 110** or
email **arsammahmood@gmail.com**

UCL University College London with the students (term time only)

**** sadly this service is no longer active****



Harnessing the *Blessings of Ramadan*

By the Grace of Allah we have entered the month of Ramadan once again. This is a blessed period and it is important to derive the maximum benefit from it. In an inspirational sermon delivered on 19th June 2015, Hadhrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V presented a comprehensive discourse on how best this could be achieved. We reproduce herewith a summary of this sermon. To gain maximum benefit from Hudhur's sermons it is strongly advised that it is listened to in its entirety.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said that there is an hour on Friday when whatever a true believer supplicates gains acceptance by God. And he told us about Ramadan that during this month doors to Paradise are opened while doors to Hell are shut. God's grace and mercy is particularly stirred in Ramadan and true believers are showered with blessings. Indeed the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said there are some conditions to attract God's grace. One should shun idle, vulgar matters and chaos, eschew using abusive language and getting involved in altercations and should respond to all evil with: I am fasting and I am eschewing all this for the sake of God. This would make one fast in the true spirit.

God has tied the significance of Ramadan with acceptance of prayer in the following verse,

'And when My servants ask thee about Me, say: 'I am near. I answer the prayer of the supplicant when he prays to Me. So they should hearken to Me and believe in Me, that they may follow the right way.' (2:187).

Thus stressing the blessedness of Ramadan by placing this verse directly after the verse regarding Ramadan and tying in acceptance of prayer with fasting during the holy month. Fridays during Ramadan are of enhanced significance but God has not pinpointed the hour during Friday when supplications gain acceptance, thus emphasising that supplications should be made night and day.

Generally speaking during Ramadan God puts Satan in fetters, opens doors to Paradise and comes closer to man. On top of this, Fridays during Ramadan should be fully availed of. The main prayer of a believer should be made with humility to be included among those whose prayers of night and day are accepted all the time and not only in Ramadan; so that one may be permanently guided. The verses preceding 2:187 state that earlier people also fasted, but this is not the impetus for fasting. The impetus for fasting is to adopt righteousness and avoid spiritual and moral weaknesses. Chapter 2 verse 187 states,

'...may follow the right way.'

This signifies having correct morals and maturity of senses on a permanent basis. Ramadan is a month of countless blessings but these blessings are given to those who follow the commandments of God and enhance in faith. If one only offers Friday Prayers during Ramadan and does not carry on afterwards, one is not

abiding by God's commandment and has weakness of faith. How can one go on to complain that one's prayers are not answered! Those who are restless to come in the refuge of God need to spend their time praying with extreme humbleness and humility by acknowledging their shortcomings. Some people assume that God comes closer to man during Ramadan so praying during this month is sufficient. This is a misleading thought. One should seek God's closeness with complete and utter humility. Indeed, God is Ever-Present but man can only gain nearness to God when he abandons all else except God and turns only to Him with humility. It should be understood very well that the objective can only be attained with righteousness and piety leading us to enjoy personal as well as communal fruits of success that God has destined.

Man does wrong and man sins but as long as he has fear of God and acknowledges his wrongs and has righteousness, God covers his sins and wrongs and ultimately enables him to repent. We should pray during Ramadan for ourselves, our near and dear ones and for members of the Jama'at that may everyone attain righteousness and fear of God. If we pray for each other with compassion angels will join in our prayers.

What is righteousness? It is fear of God and as long as we have righteousness God will cover our shortcomings and our sins unless we become so audacious that fear of God leaves us when committing sin! If weakness leads us to sin but is followed by fear of God, God forgives us. Fear of God is love of God and as long as we have it we will be saved from ruination. Indeed, it is conditional that this love is true love. God knows what is in hearts and none can deceive Him. Thus, owing to God's love if we stumble and then pick ourselves up and follow His commandments, God keeps His sense of honour for our love for Him and does not let us go to waste and enables us to repent. However, if man discards the very essence of righteousness and rejects it, he is punished.

We are most fortunate that we accepted the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) who repeatedly told us to abide us by righteousness. After him we have been given a spiritual system [of Khilafat] which reminds us time and again regarding the essence of righteousness. Indeed, Ramadan too comes each year to nourish and sustain this essence. Everyone should try and avail the beneficence of this sacred month and become servant of God. If due to our shortcomings and failings God delays acceptance of our prayers it is like when a mother momentarily shows her displeasure in order to correct her child. But when the child realises

his fault and goes to the mother, she embraces him. Indeed, God's love is greater than a mother's love. He is ever looking out for man to repent so that God may forgive him.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said that man's repentance pleases God more than a person who finds his lost she-camel in wilderness. If man turns to God with the intention to repent during Ramadan, God runs to that person. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said God says if man comes one span nearer to Me, I go one yard closer to him and if he comes one hand span closer to Me, I go a distance of two hand spans and if he comes to Me walking, I go to him running. Thus if man does not avail of so many ways and means that God has put in place to seek His pleasure then it is nothing but man's own hard-heartedness.

We cannot imagine or indeed explain the love God has for us. Indeed the aforementioned hadith creates a most excellent concept of God's love, yet it is not possible for us to really encompass God's love. Our knowledge is weak and limited; we cannot even know what is in hearts of other people. Describing this Hadhrat Musleh Ma'ud (may Allah be pleased with him) said we cannot even understand the works of God, how could we understand His love! The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) tried to explain God's love to us through examples and analogies.

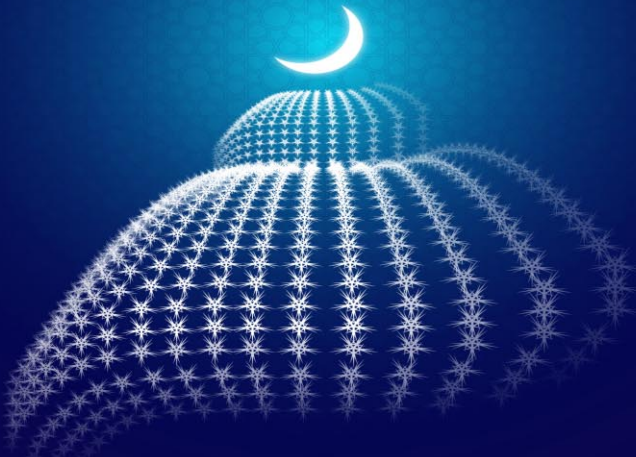
When the enemy was completely defeated in the Battle of Badr and prominent and daring disbelievers were whipping their mounts to retreat from the frontline a woman was found fearlessly going around the battlefield. She would pick up any child she saw and then put it down. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said, this woman has lost her child. Motherly love was so overwhelming that she had no fear of being in the middle of a destruction filled battlefield and hugged every child she saw and then let go realising it was not hers. Eventually the woman found her child, she embraced him and with complete abandon sat down with him with no thought of the dangers around her or indeed the dead bodies and the fact that battle had not quite ceased. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said, you see with such satisfaction she sat down once she found her child while beforehand she was extremely anxious. It is the same with God and His love for man. God is as grieved as the mother of the missing child when a person is lost due to his mistakes or sins. And when that person repents and returns to God, God is happier than the woman who found her lost child.

Our God is always ready to forgive providing we are also ready to be forgiven. Any negligence is on our part. God's forgiveness covers the person who turns to God and seeks forgiveness for his sins. Hadhrat Musleh Ma'ud (may Allah be pleased with him) said not only God's forgiveness covers one's sins but it also forgets the sin/wrongdoing and makes people forget it too. This is why one of God's name is Sattar (Coverer of faults). This Divine attribute signifies an intense quality to cover other's faults. People can cover faults and sins of others but they cannot make people forget them whereas God can remove the memory of sins committed by people from the minds of others. If God was not Sattar man would not even have peace in Paradise. Our God not only covers our faults He also effaces our sins and restores our respect. How much sacrifice should we be making to go to such a Loving God, to become His servant and indeed to run to Him!

Satan waylays at every corner but we will contend with him and fail his every attack by coming into God's refuge. Becoming a true servant of God will be truly availing the blessed month of Ramadan. It will benefit us on a personal as well as communal level. Progress of members of Jama'at translates into progress of Jama'at. We know that the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said his progress and triumph was through prayers. Thus we should turn to God and seek progress of our Jama'at and pray fervently during these days. We should not limit our prayers to ourselves and our near and dear ones. Rather we need to intensively widen the scope of our prayers, then alone will we be paying the dues of being part of the Jama'at of the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) and we should be grateful to the favour of God of including us in the Jama'at. God has placed a huge responsibility on us as Ahmadiis for which the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) drew attention of his Jama'at to prayers. We are indeed humble and weak and acknowledge our incompetence. However, we are the people on whom God has placed the responsibility to attain a magnificent objective which is not possible without His grace.

In this regard Hadhrat Musleh Ma'ud (may Allah be pleased with him) said if we are in fact weak and the task assigned to us is very difficult then how can we do this task? This task requires a lot of power to bring it to completion while we are weak. It will have to be acknowledged that either we are not that weak or this task is not as difficult as it is claimed. Or if both these statements are correct and we are weak and this task is difficult then it will have to be acknowledged that

“If man turns to God with the intention to repent during Ramadan, God runs to that person. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said God says if man comes one span nearer to Me, I go one yard closer to him and if he comes one hand span closer to Me, I go a distance of two hand spans and if he comes to Me walking, I go to him running.”



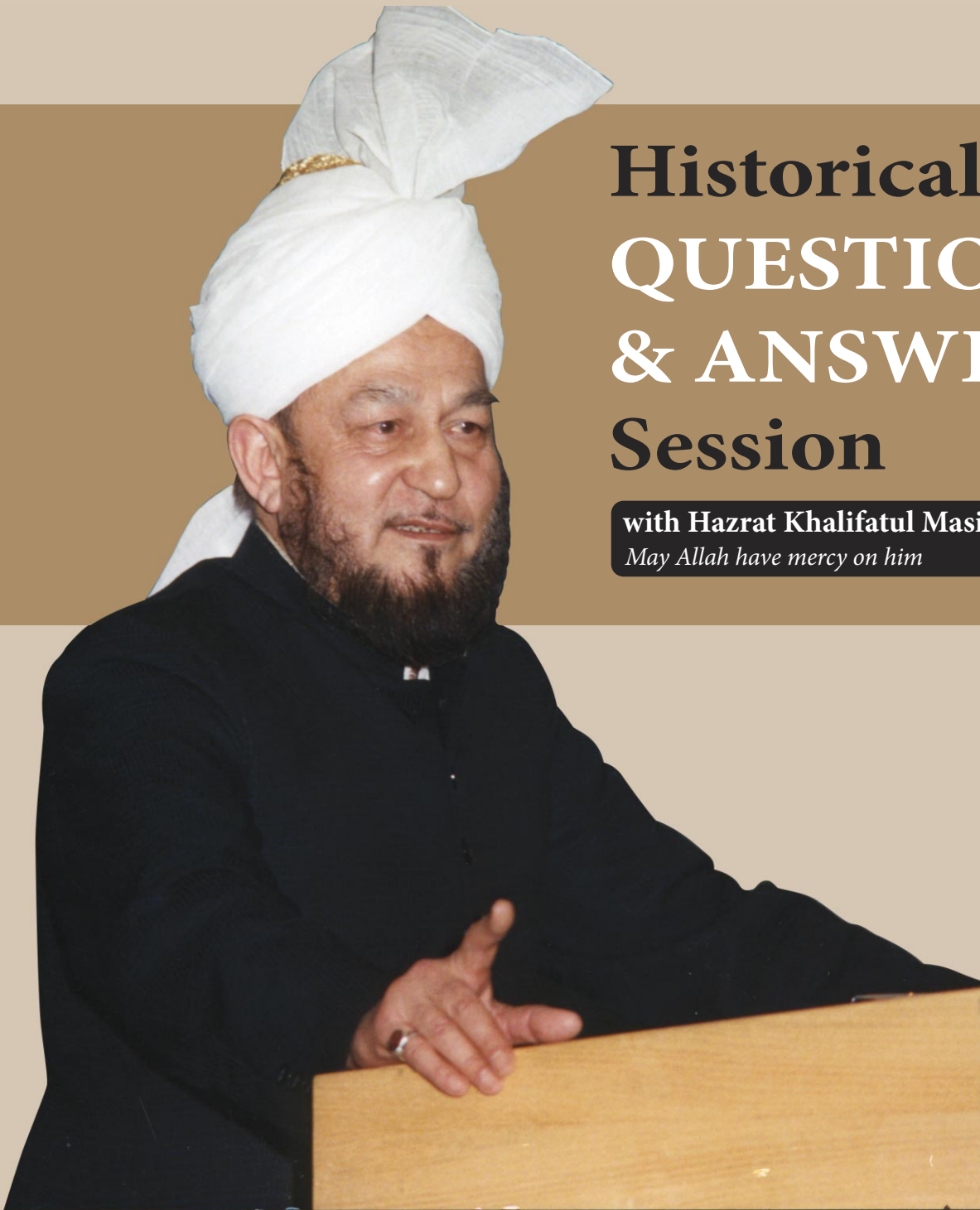
besides our efforts God has put other sources in place for the task to be completed. It is God Who is going to fulfil the objective and Islam Ahmadiyyat is going to triumph in any which way, there is no doubt whatsoever in this. And for the attainment of this God has taught us the means of prayer. Our task will not come to completion through our efforts alone although in obedience with God's will we are ever ready for sacrifice. We pray to God that with His grace He helps us through His hidden sources which He has willed.

The fact is that God has made us the apparent source whereas the real source which will bring about triumph is something else. However, we should have a certain heart-felt passion for the triumph of Islam which should manifest in the form of prayers. Hadhrat Musleh Ma'ud (may Allah be pleased with him) said an analogy of our situation can be drawn to when during the Battle of Badr the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) threw a handful of pebbles at the enemy but God stated that what followed was not due to his throwing pebbles rather it was from God that a fierce wind started which blew off millions of pebbles from the ground in the eyes of the disbelievers. That is, behind the handful of pebbles thrown by the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) was working God's power. We too are like the pebbles of Badr, the pebbles which the fierce wind blew off blinding the disbelievers. We have to acknowledge that God has put other arrangements in place to bring about the triumph of Islam and those arrangements are prayers of God's servants which attract God's grace and turn the impossible into the possible. The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said indeed this is what our success depends upon.

We should especially pray a lot during these days of Ramadan for the triumph of Islam. May we become like the handful of pebbles of Badr. May God overlook our negligence and mistakes and make such arrangements that we attain our objective. May our negligence never be a source of joy for others and with His grace, may God strengthen our weak hands to do the task that needs doing. Prayers should be made for oneself, for each other and for the progress of Jama'at and for the enemy to fail and lose out and for the manifestation of God's majesty and glory! The world is fast denying the existence of God, may it recognise God. May God forgive our mistakes and instil such strength within us availing which we can make Islam triumphant over all other world religions. May each one of us become a sincere servant of Islam and may worldly desires become secondary for us. May our hearts be effusive to uphold faith and to utilise all our capacities for this purpose. May God so strengthen our actions and our capacities that the enemy's strength is disgraced by comparison! Not only may God forgive our faults but also instil abhorrence for sin in our hearts and may we never break His commandments and be included among those who abide by His commandments and perfect their faith! May we love piety and everything good and may righteousness be instilled in us firmly! May love and ardour of God become our sustenance and may our every word and deed be in accordance with God's pleasure and when we present ourselves before Him, may He grant us His pleasure. May God make us truly attain all of this during this Ramadan!

Historical QUESTION & ANSWER Session

with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV
May Allah have mercy on him



Question & Answer with Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih IV (Allah have mercy on him) on 18th November 1995, in the Mahmood Hall, London.

QUESTIONER:

We Christians believe in the second advent of Jesus son of Mary. I understand that Muslims also believe in the second advent of Jesus son of Mary. How do you explain that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, whom you believe to be the Promised Messiah, when he is not Jesus son of Mary? [Mrs Sheila Yasmin]

Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad:

I can explain this in the words of Jesus son of Mary himself. After all, his should be the last word on this issue. When it was demanded from him to produce Elijah, the prophet of God who had ascended to heavens sitting in his fiery chariot, the one who was to come again before the coming of Christ – what was his answer? He referred to John the Baptist, explaining that he was the Elijah, not Elijah, but the Elijah, the one you were expecting. It is up to you to believe it or not. He was not named Elijah – his name was John, son of Zacharia, not born of the same parents as the previous Elijah. All names differed.

The prophecy apparently and in fact rather very clearly depicted of the physical bodily re-appearance of Elijah from the heavens. So how would you rate the decision of Jesus Christ in this regard? Will he taken to be right in declaring John the Baptist (as Elijah) despite having no commonality between him and the other Elijah; was he right in passing this judgment? If you say “Yes he was right”, then by the same judgment Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian is proved to be right. The meaning is that the second coming of such people, when they are promised to come again, never come back as the same person. They would have different parents, different name, and a different position in time and history. But they always come in the spirit, character, teaching, and style of the previous person. So if Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian is taken to be wrong in declaring him to be the son of Mary in this understanding of the term, then you have to reject not one Messiah but both of them, unfortunately. Either you keep both, or you reject both, because the verdict is passed and it would not permit you to separate between one Messiah and the other.

These are metaphorical expressions in which prophecies are made in regard to specific, particular persons, and they are not made only in Judaic religion or in Islam alone – they have been made all over the world but literally they have not got fulfilled even once in the entire history of mankind. Metaphorically yes, all the prophecies have been fulfilled.

So you have to judge the claim of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in line with the claims of all such people appearing everywhere in the world in the name of earlier holy people who had claimed to reappear. So we do not believe he was a reincarnation of Jesus – what we believe is that he

re-lived Jesus in Islam by changing the attitude which he (Jesus) had changed earlier, by presenting an example like the example of Jesus Christ himself. What he had done is to change attitude. Instead of emphasising of swords and forceful conversion, the emphasis was on sacrifice – if someone strikes you on one cheek offer the other one. This is also a biblical teaching; the window of forgiveness was kept open but practically kept shut by the people. So he practically shut the window of vengeance and revenge, and widened the window of forgiveness to a degree. He said: If somebody strikes you, be patient, persevere; if somebody abuses you, don't call him bad names but pray for him. So this is how he was Jesus son of Mary, in spirit and in attitude.

“So if Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian is taken to be wrong in declaring him to be the son of Mary in this understanding of the term, then you have to reject not one Messiah but both of them, unfortunately. Either you keep both, or you reject both, because the verdict is passed and it would not permit you to separate between one Messiah and the other.”

Children's Stories

The Hare and the Tortoise

The hare was once boasting of his speed before the other animals. *"I have never yet been beaten,"* said he, *"when I go off at full speed. I challenge any one here to race with me."*

The tortoise said quietly, *"I accept your challenge."*

"That is a good joke," said the hare; *"I could dance round you all the way."*

"Keep your boasting until you've won the race," answered the tortoise. *"Shall we race?"*



So a course was fixed and a start was made. The hare darted almost out of sight at once, but soon stopped and, to show his contempt for the tortoise, lay down to have a nap. The tortoise plodded on and plodded on, and when the hare awoke from his nap, he saw the tortoise just near the winning-post and could not run up in time to save the race.

The tortoise turned round to the hare and said: *"Plodding wins the race."*

King Solomon and the baby

Two women were arguing over a baby, each one saying that the baby was hers. They went to the court of King Solomon for a decision. The King could not really decide who was the real mother, and he did not want to make a wrong decision and deprive the real mother of her child. After some time, he came up with a plan - he told the ladies that since both of them wanted the child, the only way to satisfy them was to cut the baby in half, and giving half to the one and half to the other.

The first woman agreed with the King: *"Let the baby be neither mine nor hers, but divide it. If I can't have the child,"* she cried, *"she can't have it either"*. The second woman pleaded with the King not to hurt the child. *"Give her the baby. I'd rather lose the child than see it slain'.*

Solomon knew immediately that this was the rightful mother. He returned the baby to her.

AUXILIARY WEBSITES

Lajna.org.uk • Nasirat.org.uk

.....
www.khuddam.org.uk • atfal.org.uk

P U Z Z L E S AND JOKES!

CODE BREAKERS AND SECRET MESSAGES

In the grid below, each letter of the alphabet corresponds to a number, eg A=1, M=13 etc. Using this grid, 3 secret messages have been given below. Try to work out what the messages are.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

15	14	5		7	15	15	4		20	21	18	14		4	5	19	5	18	22	5	19	
							1	14	15	20	8	5	18									

13	1	11	4		8	1	25		23	8	9	12	5		20	8	5		19	21	14	
							19	8	9	14	5	19										

1		6	18	9	5	14	4		9	14		14	5	5	4		9	19				
		1		6	18	9	5	14	4		9	14	4	5	5	4						

RIDDLES

- What kind of dress can never be worn? - *An address.*
- What starts with an 'E', ends with an 'E', and only has one letter in it? - *An envelope.*
- What bet can never be won? - *The Alphabet.*
- What kind of coat can you put on only when it's wet? - *A coat of paint.*
- What flies around all day but never goes anywhere? - *A flag.*

KNOCK-KNOCK JOKES!

<p>Knock, Knock. Who's there? King Tut. King Tut who? King Tut-key fried chicken!</p>	<p>Knock, Knock. Who's there? Noah. Noah who? Noah good place we can get something to eat?</p>	<p>Knock, Knock. Who's there? Cook. Cook who? Hey! Who are you calling cuckoo?</p>
<p>Knock, Knock. Who's there? Orange. Orange who? Orange you going to let me in?</p>	<p>Knock, Knock. Who's there? Anee. Anee,who? Anee one you like!</p>	<p>Knock, Knock. Knock, knock! Who's there? Ketchup. Ketchup who? Ketchup with me and I'll tell you!</p>

Round-up of Ansar Tabligh News across the UK

EXHIBITION AT BLAKEDOWN AND CHURCHILL VILLAGES *By Khalid Ahmad*

The Birmingham West Majlis Village organised a Tabligh exhibition at the villages of Blakedown and Churchill. Preparations for the event had begun weeks beforehand with a letter requesting Huzoor for prayers and reconnaissance visits taking place to familiarise the organising team with the people that resided there and facilities that could be made available for the Exhibition. A Committee was setup by the local Zaeem who allocated roles for each member.

It was felt important to engage with the people of the area beforehand to develop contacts. Tabligh stalls on the High Street were set up regularly and members attended solidarity prayers at the communion of 5 churches which included Blakedown at St Saviours in Hagley where a message of Huzoor Aqdas was read out. Earlier over Christmas and the New Year, season's greeting cards were distributed to around 550 households as well as various other leaflets like those entitled 'Peace', 'Islam's Response To Extremism' and 'True Islam'. In addition, more recently invitations to the Exhibition were given out, posters were placed on notice boards and post office shops publicising the date and venue of the event.

On the day of the Exhibition itself all Ansar from the Majlis were asked to participate. The pop ups put on show included those on the Holy Qur'an, Life of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), Charity Walk for Peace and the Poppy Appeal. Separate stalls were displayed for free literature, Humanity First and *Review of Religions* magazine.

As people came in to view, each was registered provided they had signed the Data Consent form. Those interested were invited to give recorded interviews and Maulana Aqeel Kang was on hand to answer any questions the guests had. Videos introducing the Jama'at and its achievements ran on a loop throughout the duration of the exhibition. In total 16 guests attended including the Pastor from St Saviours. The follow up response from guests was very positive and news of the event was publicised through the social media.



LEICESTER TABLIGH CAMPAIGN

Majlis Leicester organised a three day Tabligh Campaign which started on 16th April delivering leaflets and invitations to the residents of Groby Village. The invitation was for an Exhibition that the Majlis was setting up later this year. Around 300 invitations were given out in the first day. The main participants included Messrs Chaudry Nasir Ahmad and Hammad Amjad.

On the following day a stall was put up in Groby Village where further distribution of leaflets took place. Around 200 were distributed on this day. Posters of the forthcoming event were put at various shops of the village including WH Smiths and the Co Op. People who participated were the local Missionary and Messrs Junaid Masood, Javaid uddin Ahmadi and Hammad Amjad.

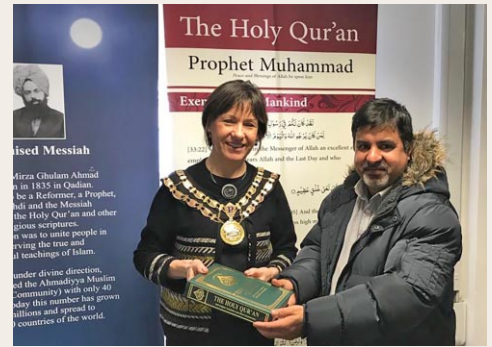
On day three, the 18th of April, a team of ten Khuddam and Ansar lead by Mr Zartasht participated in distributing over 1100 invites and other leaflets in the southern and western areas of Groby. This day's efforts concluded with a stall put up in Leicester city centre. Three contacts were made and several discussions took place. In addition two books were given out to those who showed interest.



HOLY QUR'AN PRESENTATION

On 24th March Mayor of Pontypridd Lynda Davies visited the Bait-ul-Raheem Mosque, Sanatorium Road, Canton, Cardiff. She received a tour of the Mosque and appreciated the efforts of Jama'at members in their struggle for building a mosque and in their efforts to promote peace in the wider Welsh society.

She was presented the gift of the Holy Qur'an with English translation by Zaeem Ansarullah Cardiff. She has committed to keep in touch and attend more Jama'at events in future.



TABLIGH STALL IN CHEAM – By MA Nasir

On Saturday 30th March 2019 Majlis Ansarullah Cheam held a tabligh stall on Sutton High Street. The stall did not receive much attention although ten people came to look at the display with some interest and one engaged in detailed discussion. Even so, three books were given and one copy of the Holy Qur'an to those who wished to engage in further study.

The distributed books included *Jesus in India* and *Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam* both by the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and *World Crises And Pathway to Peace* by Huzoor Aqdas. Three Ansar were involved. They are Messrs. A.Hafeez Mangat, M.Akram Shahid and Ayaz A Rathor.



VILLAGE EXHIBITION IN ETWALL

Majlis Ansarullah Burton held its 4th successful village exhibition on 14th April 2019 at the Frank Wickham Village Hall in Etwall.

Preparations for the event had started some time ago with leafleting taking place 3 months earlier. Advertisements were featured at the local churches, the chip shop, library, leisure centre, schools, local businesses and the social media. The local council and the councillors in particular were encouraged to participate. A lot of effort was also made by attending functions held by the local community and through setting up tabligh stalls. In total 15 guests attended the event which included two Councillors, two representatives from charities, members from local churches and the local community. Samosas, biscuits, tea and coffee were served.

The five people who assisted at the event included Messrs Syed Raheel Zakria, Tahir Ahmed, Shafiq Ahmed, Nasir Saud Ahmed, Syed Aamir Sikander and Dr Irfan Malik.



TABLIGH STALL IN SUTTON - By Muhammad Usama

On Sunday 31st March members from the Sutton Jama'at put up a tabligh stall in their local High Street from 11.30 am to 4 pm. Twenty visitors stopped and took interest and discussions were held. In total 15 leaflets was given out along with 5 books which included some in Arabic. In addition contact was established with an Egyptian family. Telephone numbers were exchanged and information on various Jama'at projects was given including MTA. Volunteers who put up the stall included, Messrs Hocine from Morocco, Tahir Shaafi from Egypt, Rana Mansoor Ahmad and Kamal Ziane Berroudja, Secretary Tabligh Sutton.

COFFEE MORNINGS IN NOTTINGHAM

By Irfan Malik,

The Nottingham Ansar have started to hold regular coffee mornings at their Baitul Hafeez Mosque on the first Saturday of every month. On Saturday 6th April they received four visitors who engaged in detailed discussions about Islam over coffee and refreshments.

