

AHMADIYYA BULLETIN

MARCH APRIL 2021 - AMAN SHAHADAT 1400



Ramadan Mubarak



“First and foremost, one should understand the true meaning of taqwa and how one can attain it. Taqwa means to desist from even the most nominal and smallest elements of immorality and impurity. This can be achieved by devising such robust and complete strategies and efforts through which you avoid crossing paths with sin altogether. However, it is insufficient to only make efforts. In fact, one also needs to fulfil the right of prayers and pray in a way that melts the heart.”

Malfuzat, Vol. 6 pp. 337-338

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Holy Qur'an

So glorify the name of thy Lord, the Great. Nay, I swear by the shooting of the stars – and, indeed, that is a grand oath, if you only knew – that this is indeed a noble Qur'an, in a well-preserved Book, which none shall touch except those are purified. It is a revelation from the Lord of the worlds. Is it this Divine discourse that you would reject? And do you make the denial thereof your means of livelihood?

(Al-Waqi'ah, 56:75-83)

فَسَبِّحْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الْعَظِيمِ ﴿٧٥﴾ فَلَا أُقْسِمُ بِمَوْجِعِ النُّجُومِ ﴿٧٦﴾
وَإِنَّهُ لَقَسَمٌ لَوْ تَعْلَمُونَ عَظِيمٌ ﴿٧٧﴾ إِنَّهُ لَقُرْآنٌ كَرِيمٌ ﴿٧٨﴾
فِي كِتَابٍ مَكْنُونٍ ﴿٧٩﴾ لَا يَسَسَّهَ إِلَّا الْبُطْهُرُونَ ﴿٨٠﴾
تَنْزِيلٌ مِّن رَّبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٨١﴾
أَفِيهِذَا الْحَدِيثِ أَنْتُمْ مُدْهِنُونَ ﴿٨٢﴾
وَتَجْعَلُونَ رِزْقَكُمْ أَنْتُمْ تُكذِّبُونَ ﴿٨٣﴾

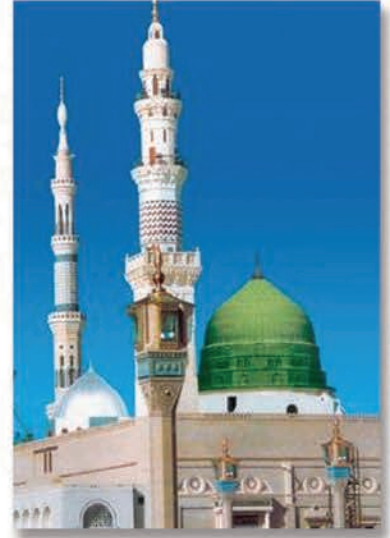
Hadith

Abu Umamah relates that he heard the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, say: Keep reading the Qur'an for it will intercede for its readers on the Day of Judgment.

(Muslim, from Gardens of Righteous, p. 185, No. 995)

Hazrat Ayesha relates that the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, said: He who recites the Qur'an fluently will be in the company of the noble and virtuous; and he who recites the Qur'an haltingly and with difficulty will have a double reward.

(Bukhari and Muslim, from Gardens of Righteous, p. 185, No 998)



From the Writings of the Promised Messiah

God, in whose meeting is man's salvation and eternal happiness, cannot be found without following the Holy Qur'an. Would that people could see that which I have seen and they could hear that which I have heard and give up following stories and run towards reality. The means of obtaining perfect knowledge through which one can see God, the cleansing water which removes all doubts, and the mirror through which one can behold that High Being, is the converse with God which I have just mentioned. He whose soul seeks the truth should arise and search for it.

(Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, From Essence of Islam, Vol 1, page 353)



In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious Ever Merciful



37. Promised Messiah Day UK

41. National Musleh Maud Day 2021

17. Virtual Meetings held with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V

- 17: Virtual Meeting of UK Waqf-e-Nau.
- 19: Virtual Audience For Jamia Ahmadiyya Bangladesh.
- 23: Virtual Meeting of Waqf-e-Nau From Bangladesh
- 25: Virtual Meeting of Waqfaat-e-Nau From Bangladesh.
- 27: Virtual Meeting of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya From Bangladesh.
- 28: Virtual Meeting of Lajna Imaillah Ghana.
- 29: Virtual Meeting of Majlis-e-Amila Gambia.
- 30: Virtual Meeting of Waqf-e-Nau From Indonesia.
- 32: Virtual Meeting of National Majlis-e-Amila Nigeria.
- 33: Virtual Meeting of Lajna Imaillah Nigeria.
- 33: Virtual Meeting of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Amila Mauritius.

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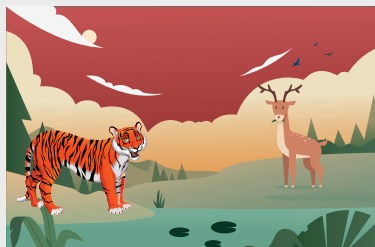


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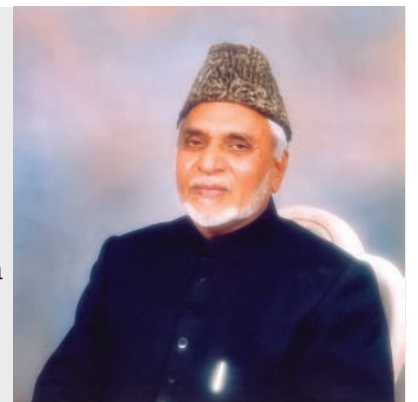
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We present summaries of some of Huzoor's Friday sermons taken with thanks from alislam.org. While every effort has been made to present the salient points as accurately as possible, we take full responsibility for any errors. In order to draw maximum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

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SERMON: 1 January 2021

Amirul Momineen continued to highlight incidents from the life of Hazrat Ali. (Allah be pleased with him)

Martyrdom of Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him)

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had prophesied the martyrdom of Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him). Huzoor said that Abdur Rahman bin Muljam attacked Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) when he was proceeding for the Fajr prayer. Ibn Muljam was apprehended and Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) said that if he were to pass away, then he should also be killed, so that the matter between the two could be decided by God.

Advice of Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) in His Will

Huzoor said that in his will, Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) advised his family to remain close, and fearful of God and to remain steadfast. He advised that all disputes should be avoided and the poor and needy should be taken care of. Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) further advised to always enjoin good and forbid evil.

Huzoor Aqdas stated that when someone went to see Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him), he told him that he was soon going to depart. Hearing this, his daughter began crying. He said that he saw the Holy Prophet

(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) telling him that the place to which he was going was much better than the current state he was in.

Demise of Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him)

Huzoor Anwar said that Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) gave greetings of peace to everyone after completing his will and professed his faith in the unity of God and belief in His Messenger, and he passed away on 27 Ramadan 40 A.H.

Wives and Children of Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him)

Hazrat Amirul Momineen said that Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) married eight times. Of his wives, one was daughter and a granddaughter of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). From these marriages, Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) was granted more than 30 children.

Blessings of God Upon Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him)

Once, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that he was a city of knowledge and Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) was the gate to that city. Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) is also recorded as being one of the bravest companions and often appointed as the flag bearer of Islam. Recounting the blessings of God upon him, once Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) said that there was a time when he used to tie stones to his stomach due to the severity of hunger. However, God blessed him



to such an extent that he was able to give as much as forty thousand dinars in alms.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that fortunate were those who loved Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) and spoke the truth about them, and they would be beside him in heaven, and those who hold enmity and lie about Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) would be among the wretched in the Hereafter.

An Important Message for the New Year

Hazoor said that we should pray that the new year proves to be blessed for this Community, and for the entire world. May we continue to turn to and prostrate before God more than before, and may the worldly people also be able to recognise God.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen explained that for the past

year, we have been enduring a grave pandemic, from which no place in the world is safe. He said that a few months ago, he sent letters to various world leaders in which he drew their attention to the fact that such calamities come about from becoming unmindful of God and growing in injustice. Hazoor Anwar said that though some leaders replied, their replies were limited to the worldly aspect of this crisis and they failed to acknowledge the aspect of God and faith that Hazoor had mentioned.

Huzoor Aqdas said that thus, it will only be right to congratulate one another on the new year once we do our part in warning the world. In order to do this, we must first analyse ourselves. For us, who have accepted the Messiah of the age, are we doing our part in fulfilling the rights owed to God, and then for His sake, fulfilling the rights owed to His people?

Huzoor said that every Ahmadi man, woman and child should understand this and vow to strive and use all their faculties and capacities to bring about a revolutionary change in the world.

SERMON: 9 January 2021

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor recited the following:

'Who is it that will lend Allah a goodly loan that He may multiply it for him manifold? And Allah receives and enlarges, and to Him shall you be made to return.' [2:246]

The Meaning of a Goodly Loan

Huzoor said that this verse mentions giving Allah a loan. However this does not mean that God forbid, God needs our worldly wealth. Another meaning of loan also means good or bad recompense. Thus in this context, the verse means *'Who is it that will spend in the way of Allah so that He may reward him for it.'*

Huzoor said that indeed, spending for the betterment of God's creations is equivalent to spending for the sake of Allah. And whatever is spent in the way of Allah never goes to waste, rather it is a loan of sorts which Allah returns manifold over. Thus, God is in no need for any worldly wealth.

Huzoor said that by using the words 'goodly loan' God refers to that which one spends and sacrifices of their own volition and will, which then God returns manifold. It is a figure of speech, as loans are to be returned. Furthermore, God Almighty states that one shall reap the reward of even an atom's weight of good that they have done.

Examples of Financial Sacrifice of Ahmadi Muslims

Huzoor said, that the sacrifices of Ahmadi Muslims are only for the sake of attaining the pleasure of God. There are even those who face straitened financial circumstances, yet they still present financial sacrifices, trusting that God will take care of them and their needs.

In relating examples of those who benefitted from this promise of God, Huzoor related the case of someone from Guinea-Conakry who gave all the money he had following a Friday Sermon on *Waqf-e-Jadid*. He said quoting from the sermon that the Promised Messiah^(peace be upon him) said that one cannot

have both the love of God and the love of wealth in their hearts, and so he wished to reap the benefits of the love of God.

Huzoor commented that sometimes people wonder why such instances of being rewarded and recompensed do not occur with them. When financial sacrifices are made with the intention to solely attain the pleasure of God, then God always rewards in one way or another; and if not immediately then at a later time which He deems appropriate.

Huzoor Anwar presented examples of sacrifices made by young students in Sierra Leone such as of a young girl who offered fifty thousand Leones, and of two youngsters who took up some work, just so that they could offer the required contribution. Huzoor said that these are examples of those who hearken to the call of their Caliph.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen gave another example of a Tanzanian from the Iringa region, who had pledged 600,000 shillings for *Waqf-e-Jadid* but was facing straitened financial circumstances. He requested prayers from Huzoor. Soon he got a job contract for 6 million shillings. He immediately fulfilled his pledge. An Australian lady did not have enough money to furnish her new home. However, as the year for *Waqf-e-Jadid* was ending, she fulfilled her pledge instead, placing complete trust in God. Shortly after, she received a bonus given only to her from her employer, which was double her *Waqf-e-Jadid* contribution.

A ten-year-old boy from India, who had saved up quite a bit of money, decided to give this amount towards *Waqf-e-Jadid*. When asked why he did so, he said that because this is what God, His Messenger^(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and his Caliphs command us to do. Huzoor commented that if this is the mentality of our youngsters, then what harm can the opponents of Ahmadiyyat inflict upon us?

Huzoor presented many other examples of financial sacrifices from around the world, and the manner in which God Almighty 'returns loans.' Hazrat Amirul Momineen prayed that may this Community always be able to present such sacrifices and experience such blessings of God Almighty.

SERMON: 15 January 2021

Rightly Guided Caliphs – Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) & Launch of MTA Ghana

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V continued highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him).

Hazrat Ali's (Allah be pleased with him) Love for God

Huzoor related an incident in which Hazrat Hussain asked his father, as to whether he loved him, to which Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) replied that he did. Hazrat Hussain then asked whether Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) loved God, to which he replied that he did. Hazrat Hussain wondered that would this not then be considered Shirk [associating partners with God]? Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) replied that this was not Shirk, for between the love for God and the love for his son, he would choose the love of God.

Once Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) found out that his sons were being taught to say *Khatimun Nabiyyin* rather than *Khatamun Nabiyyin* [Seal of Prophets] because the former would mean the one who ended prophethood, whereas *Khatamun Nabiyyin* means the Seal of Prophets and that is the correct pronunciation and meaning.

Eagerness to Fulfil Commandments of the Holy Qur'an

Huzoor Anwar said that in the Qur'an, there is a commandment that one should give alms before consulting with the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Following the revelation of this commandment, Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) went to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), gave alms and consulted with him merely to fulfil this commandment of the Holy Qur'an.

There is also a Qur'anic commandment which states that if you go to someone's home and they do not allow you to enter then you should happily go away. However, Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) said that no one ever refused him entry upon his asking. Huzoor commented that these were the ways of the companions.

Hazrat Ali's (Allah be pleased with him) Desire for Justice and Equity

Huzoor stated that if Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) ever learned of a certain person's dishonesty, he would write a letter to them which contained verses of the

Holy Qur'an pertaining to justice and equity.

It is related that Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) would walk through a market, advising all those he met, to always speak the truth, to be just and equitable, and to conduct business with complete transparency and honesty.

Huzoor quoted Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (Allah be pleased with him) who said that during the Caliphates of Hazrat Uthman and Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with them both), there were fewer people who benefitted from the company of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), thus there were more disorders.

Noble Qualities of Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him)

Huzoor Aqdas related that Amir Mu'awiyah asked someone about Hazrat Ali's (Allah be pleased with him) qualities. They said he was strong and steadfast, and firm yet fair in his decisions. He was wise and had no material desires. Instead he loved the nightly prayer. He dressed in simple clothes, ate simple food and lived among the people like an ordinary person. He was prepared to answer any question. Although he was always compassionate to people and they showed great affection for him, people were still in awe of his grandeur. He loved those who were spiritual and held the poor close. The greatest powers could not convince him with false stories, and the weakest were never disappointed with his high standard of justice.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said that Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) was righteous, pure and among those dearest to Allah. He was generous and a lion of God. He was brave in battle and never moved from his place in the battlefield. He was also a great orator with his words piercing hearts. No one could compete with his knowledge. He advised people to help the less fortunate and led by example.

Launch of MTA Ghana

Huzoor said that after the Friday prayer, he would be launching a new television channel called 'MTA Ghana'.

The Wahab Adam Studio in Ghana was completed in 2017 and one of the most advanced studios in Ghana. Various media organisations and broadcasters send their staff there for work experience. The studio has produced many LIVE programmes. MTA Ghana will be a new 24-hour national TV channel and easily accessible to Ghanaians with programmes in various languages of Ghana. The transmission and scheduling of the channel will run locally. Many

programmes provide moral training and educate Ghanaians on the true teachings of Islam. MTA Ghana will be the only dedicated Islamic channel on the digital platform in Ghana.

SERMON: 22 January 2021

Rightly Guided Caliphs – Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V began citing incidents from the life of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him).

Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) did not physically take part in the Battle of Badr. However he was among those eight companions to whom the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gave the spoils of war and thus included them amongst the participants at Badr.

Family Background of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him)

His full name was Uthman bin Affan bin Abil Aas bin Umayyah bin Abd Shams bin Abd Manaf bin Qusayy bin Qilab. He was related to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) on account of being from the lineage of Abd Manaf. His mother's name was Arwah bint Quraiz, and his maternal grandmother was the sister of the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) father. Hazrat Uthman's (Allah be pleased with him) father had passed away before the advent of Islam.

Possessor of Two Lights

Huzoor stated that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) married his daughter Ruqayyah to Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). However she passed away during the days of Badr. Afterwards, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gave his daughter, Umm Kulthum, to Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) in marriage. Thus, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) was also known as *Dhun-Noorain*.

Once Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) went to meet the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) along with Hazrat Talhah bin Ubaidillah. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) preached the true message of Islam, upon which both accepted Islam. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) told the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that he had just returned from Syria where he heard someone calling out, saying that Ahmad had appeared in Makkah. Upon returning to Makkah, he heard of the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) claim. Thus, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) accepted Islam even before

the time of *Dar-e-Arqam*.

Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) and his wife, Hazrat Ruqayyah were known for their great beauty. Once, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) visited their home, and the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said to his daughter, that she should take great care of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him), for amongst his companions, he resembled his moral qualities the most.

Migration to Abyssinia

Prior to embarking on his migration to Abyssinia, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) advised Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) to take Hazrat Ruqayyah along with him, so that both could be a means of support for one another. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) remained in Abyssinia for some time and returned to Makkah along with other companions only after hearing news that the Quraish had accepted Islam. However, upon reaching Makkah, they learned that this news was false. Later, Hazrat Uthman and Hazrat Ruqayyah (Allah be pleased with them both) also took part in the migration from Makkah to Madinah.

An Incident at the Ka'bah

Huzoor explained why it was believed that the Quraish accepted Islam. It is stated that once, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was standing near the Holy Ka'bah and was reciting *Surah Najm* in a profound and heartfelt manner and fell into prostration, upon which all the Muslims, and even the Quraish present also fell into prostration. Huzoor said that at times, hearing or seeing certain things, the heart becomes influenced to such a degree that a person does something which is seemingly out of their control. This is something we see even today. Huzoor said that he himself has asked atheists about this and they have said that this is absolutely true.

Demise of Hazrat Ruqayyah & Marriage to Hazrat Umm Kulthum

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) instructed Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) to stay behind and tend to Hazrat Ruqayyah who was ill. Later, after returning from Badr, the Holy Prophet (Allah be pleased with him) set a portion of the spoils for Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). After her demise, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) told Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) that Gabriel had informed him that God had decreed for his daughter Umm Kulthum to be married to him. She passed away in the ninth year after migration. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) led her funeral prayer, and became emotional

as he stood by her grave.

Once, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saw Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) weeping as he was no longer the Prophet's son-in-law. He replied that he had nothing to worry about, for if he had a hundred daughters, he would have married them to him one after the other.

SERMON: 29 January 2021

Rightly Guided Caliphs – Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Hazrat Amirul Momineen continued with incidents from the life of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) and the battles in which he took part.

Battle of Badr

As mentioned Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) was unable to personally take part at Badr, as instructed by the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), because his wife Hazrat Ruqayyah was ill. Later, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) included him in the distribution of the spoils of war, and so he was able to be a part in this way.

Battle of Ghatafan

When the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) set out towards Ghatafan, he appointed Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) as his deputy in Madinah. Thus he did not physically take part in the Battle of Ghatafan either. Some tribes of the Banu Ghatafan intended to attack Madinah. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) learned this and set out with an army towards the Banu Ghatafan to neutralise the threat. Upon learning of the Holy Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) arrival, the various tribes hid near the mountains. Though no battle ensued, the threat of an attack on Madinah was nullified.

Incident During the Battle of Uhud

Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) took part in the Battle of Uhud. The Quraish had spread the false news that the Holy Prophet (Allah be pleased with him) had been martyred by them. Upon hearing this, a small number of companions left the battlefield disheartened, heading back towards Madinah. On account of their sincerity, the Holy Qur'an mentions that they were forgiven. Another group of companions who heard this false news were overcome with sadness and so moved to one side of the battlefield. It is recorded that Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) was part of this

second group. A third group that heard this news continued fighting. When the first two groups heard that the Holy Prophet (Allah be pleased with him) was still alive, they immediately returned to battle.

Treaty of Hudaibiyah

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saw a dream that he was circling the Ka'bah, and so he set out along with over 1,400 companions for Umrah (the lesser pilgrimage). It was the month of *Dhul-Qa'dah*, in which fighting was prohibited. Hence the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) instructed his companions that their swords should remain sheathed.

Then, the Holy Prophet (Allah be pleased with him) and his companions stopped by the valley of Hudaibiyah. Here, a Makkan informed the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) that the chieftains would never allow him to enter Makkah and would surely fight against him. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that he had no intention of fighting them, but was willing to form a pact.

Then, the Quraish sent representatives to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to negotiate a deal. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) also decided that a Muslim representative should also be sent to Makkah.

Later, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) decided that an influential person should be sent. Thus, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) was sent to Makkah on behalf of the Muslims, along with a message from the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) addressing the Makkans. However, they remained stubborn and said that they would not allow the Muslims to enter, but they would allow Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) to circle the Ka'bah. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) said how could he do this, when the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was being stopped from entering Makkah. Thus, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) began making preparations to return to the Muslim camp. The Makkans stopped him from leaving.

Upon this, the false news spread that Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) had been martyred. After hearing this, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gathered all the companions and took an oath from them, that now they would advance forth and would never turn back, even if it meant giving up their lives. This oath is known as *Bai'at-e-Ridwan*.

Upon hearing of this oath, the Makkans became afraid, and immediately said that a treaty should be made. They sent Suhail bin Amr to the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) in order to finalise the terms and an agreement was reached, which is known as the Treaty of Hudaibiyah.

SERMON: 5 February 2021

Men of Excellence Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him)

Huzoor said it is recorded that when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) set out for the battle of *Dhatur-Riqa*, he appointed Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) as the Amir of Madinah in his stead.

Incident During Conquest of Makkah

At the conquest of Makkah, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) forgave everyone, except four. One was Ikrimah bin Abi Jahl, who fled before he could be caught. However, he later returned and accepted Islam. Another was Abdullah bin Abi Sarh who hid. When the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was accepting people's oath of allegiance, Abdullah came out and Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) asked the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) on his behalf to forgive him. Initially, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) refused, but then he agreed and accepted his oath of allegiance.

Hazrat Ikrimah's Acceptance

Huzoor then related the incident of Ikrimah's acceptance according to historical accounts. His acceptance was the fulfilment of a prophecy. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saw in a dream that he was in a beautiful garden where he saw a branch laden with dates. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) asked who this was for and was told that it was for Abu Jahl. Initially this was worrying as the gardens are only promised for the believers. However, later when Hazrat Ikrimah accepted Islam, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) understood that the dream was about him.

Great Sacrifice of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) During Tabuk

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) made an appeal for financial help in preparation for the battle of Tabuk. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) presented a hundred camels. Then the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) made another appeal, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) presented another hundred camels. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) made

a third appeal, upon which Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) presented yet another hundred camels. It is also recorded that Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) presented ten thousand dinars to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as well.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) had bought a piece of heaven.

Prophecy Regarding Caliphate

Huzoor stated that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said to Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) that he would be given a robe to wear that some would want him to take off but they would be hypocrites.

Sacrifices Accepted in the Heavens

Huzoor said that Hazrat Abu Bakr held Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with them both) in high esteem. Once during his Caliphate, there was a drought. People approached Hazrat Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him), who told them not to worry, they would find ease that evening. On that same day, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) returned with his trading caravan from Syria, carrying wheat and grain. People went to his home and asked him to sell the produce he had brought back, so that it could be distributed amongst the poor. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) enquired how much profit they would give him. They said that they would give him one or two more dirhams than the actual cost. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) said that there was someone who was offering him more. They asked who was offering him a greater price, to which he replied that God was offering him more. Then he gave the wheat and grains to them as alms.

Later that night Hazrat Ibn Abbas saw the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) in a hurry in a dream. Hazrat Ibn Abbas asked why the hurry. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) replied that alms given by Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) was accepted by the heavens, and God had settled his marriage in heaven and they had all been invited.

SERMON: 19 February 2021

Prophecy of the Promised Son: He Will be Filled With Secular & Spiritual Knowledge

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor said in the Community, 20th February is commemorated for the prophecy vouchsafed to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) regarding the Promised Son.

As far as the formal education of Hazrat Musleh Maood is concerned, it was not very extensive as he only studied up until the primary level.

Comprehension of the Love for God

In March 1907, when he was only 18 years old, Hazrat Musleh Maood wrote an impressive treatise on the topic of *The love for God*.

Knowledge With Regards to Attaining True Success

In December of 1908, Hazrat Musleh Maood at the age of 19, presented a speech at the Annual Convention in Qadian on the topic of Attaining True Success.

Understanding of the Remembrance of God

In the Annual Convention of 1916, two years after becoming the Caliph, he delivered a speech on *the Remembrance of God*.

Awareness of the Attributes of God

In October 1919, Hazrat Musleh Maood delivered a speech in Patiala, the topic of which was the attribute of God, '*Lord of all the Worlds*' also known as the general grace of God which applies to all things and all people.

Another lecture delivered in 1919 was '*The Outset of Dissension in Islam*.' In this lecture, Hazrat Musleh Maood explained that the dissension which arose in Islam after about fifteen years after the demise of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is often cited by the opponents of Islam as a blight against the religion Islam. Hazrat Musleh Maood said that he wished to dispel such false notions.

Insight into Divine Decree

Another speech delivered in 1919 was on the subject of '*Divine Decree*.' This, no doubt, is a difficult subject to tackle. However Hazrat Musleh Maood presented it in a most eloquent manner. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV (Allah have mercy on him) said that to deliver such a speech at the Annual Convention, where both learned and educated people were listening, as well as those who were not educated, and to present it in such a manner that both could understand is indeed a great feat.

Advice to Muslim Nations

Hazrat Musleh Maood delivered another lecture on the topic of '*The Treaty of Turkey and the Future Conduct of Muslims*'. After the First World War, the deals made with Muslim countries were very crippling and unfair. Thus, Hazrat Musleh Maood gave sound advice and guidance as to how Muslims countries

such as Turkey should proceed in the future.

The Need for Religion

In March 1921, Hazrat Musleh Maood delivered a speech on the topic of 'The Need for Religion.' He answered all of the points with great proficiency stating that the need for religion is based upon the existence of God and His converse with people, and in this age, no one has had more converse with God than the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

Another treatise by Hazrat Musleh Maood was '*The Existence of God*.' He presented the concept of God in various other religions in history and soundly proved the existence of God.

A Gift to the Prince of Wales

Another book which Hazrat Musleh Maood wrote was '*A Gift to the Prince of Wales*' which was sent to Edward VIII. In this, he conveyed the true message of Islam to him and invited him to accept it.

Inviting the World to the True Islam

Hazrat Musleh Maood wrote a book titled '*Ahmadiyyat: The True Islam*.' A summary of this book was read out at the Wembley Conference in 1924. This book presented such great ideas, that even Christian priests attested to the fact that this book presented points which had never before been heard.

These examples were just a glimpse into the life of Hazrat Musleh Maood when he was still in his youth. Huzoor prayed that may Allah continue to elevate his station in paradise.

SERMON: 26 February 2021

Men of Excellence

Hazrat Usman (Allah be pleased with him)

After reciting *Tashahhud, Ta'awwuz and Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor continued highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him).

Huzoor mentioned the Battle of Sawari which took place between the Muslims and Romans. Constantine set out an army of 500 ships against the Muslims. In the end, the Muslims prevailed. Similarly, Huzoor highlighted victories in various regions and countries afforded to the Muslims during the time of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). These include places such as Rome, Armenia, and Afghanistan.

Message of Islam Reaches the Indian Subcontinent

The message of Islam also reached the Indian sub-

continent during the time of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). It is narrated that he sent armies towards Mukran and Sindh where the Muslims were able to spread the message of Islam.

Dissension Foretold

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had foretold that there would be opposition against Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) when one day, God would grant him a robe to wear, but some would want to remove it. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) advised that when this happens, he should not take it off.

During the days of his illness, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) called Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) and they sat alone when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) spoke to him.

It was during the time of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) that disorder amongst the Muslims began to arise. Huzoor quoted Hazrat Musleh Maood who said that some blame either Hazrat Uthman or Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with them both) as the reasons why this disorder began. However he explained that such a notion is completely false, for both were great servants of Islam and had reached such heights of spirituality that they could not commit any deed that would contradict the teachings of Islam.

Spreading of Mischief

There was in fact a group of people who were spreading falsities regarding the Companions of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). They would go around and express their complaints to whoever would listen. Slowly, this group began growing, being easily influenced as they would be entrapped as soon as they accepted Islam and their faith was weak. Furthermore, they had never met or spent time around the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), or even his senior Companions. Thus they were easily influenced.

Clemency & Wisdom

Even the perpetrators of the disorder against Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) conceded that they would not be able to openly spread this disorder whilst he was in power. In fact, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) gathered these people together with the Companions. At this time, those raising disorder began seeking forgiveness from Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). The Companions said that it would be permissible to kill those who were raising this disorder. However, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) said that he would

accept their apologies and that there was no reason to take such action.

Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) clarified the various allegations being levelled against him by the hypocrites. For example there was an allegation that Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) whilst travelling would not shorten his prayers as instructed by the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) explained that this only took place once when he travelled to Mina, and he did not need to shorten his prayer there because he owned property there, and his in-laws also resided in Mina. Another allegation was that he would appoint youngsters to high posts. However, he clarified that he only appointed those who possessed high levels of piety and the capacity to undertake the responsibility given.

Even then, the Companions insisted that they should be killed on account of the disorder they were brewing, But Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) insisted that no such action would be taken; he hoped for their reformation. This was the level of mercy shown by Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). Unfortunately such clemency did nothing for the hypocrites. Instead it increased their dissension and disorder.

SERMON: 5 March 2021

Men of Excellence Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor proceeded to highlight incidents on the disorder that arose during the life of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him).

The rebels wanted Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) to discard the robe of Khilafat. He refused and the rebels continued in this attempt for twenty days

Khalifa's House Besieged

After twenty days, seeing as they were unsuccessful, the rebels decided to restrict Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) to his home and cut off all lines of supply to him.

Admonishment to the Besiegers

Learning this, Hazrat Ali (Allah be pleased with him) went to Hazrat Uthman's (Allah be pleased with him) home and explained to the rebels besieging it that the method they had adopted was wrong and they should desist.

The rebels retorted that they would not allow a single drop of water to reach Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him). When Hazrat Umm Habibah, a wife of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), went with some water and tried reasoning with the rebels, they began attacking the mule she was riding. Observing this, the Muslims realised that there was no chance in reasoning with these rebels.

Circular to Provincial Governors

Huzoor said that Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) wrote a letter to Muslims in which he said that there were some who wished to create disorder. However these people did not realise that it was God Himself who appoints a Khalifa, as stipulated in the Qur'an. He said that the rebels had made three demands from him; that he should be equally reprimanded for any punishment which he had given to anyone. If he did not agree to this, then he should relinquish his Khillafat. If he did not agree to this either, then the rebels would send their men and tell people to stop being obedient to him.

In response to these demands, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) said that previous Caliphs were never reprimanded for decisions which they made, yet the rebels wished to reprimand him. This only meant that this was an excuse to kill him. As for abandoning the robe of Khilafat, he said that they could whatever they wanted, he would never leave the mantle bestowed upon him by God. As for the third matter, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) said that he never forced anyone to pledge allegiance to him, however after having done so, if they sought to make people break their oaths then they themselves would suffer the consequences.

When all else was failing, the rebels tried to provoke Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) to retaliate so they could have an excuse to fight against him.

Seeing that the rebels were looking for an excuse to kill Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him), Muslims would gather around his home and stand guard. However, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) was so selfless, that he told an army of 3,000 men who had come to protect him, that they should not put their lives in danger, as the rebels only had an issue with him.

Worthy Efforts of the Companions

Upon seeing the Muslims fervour to protect their Khalifa, the rebels grew worried for their own sakes and thought that they would have to act quickly in their attempt of killing Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with

him). Thus, one night the rebels attacked his home. There were a few companions outside his home who valiantly put up a defence. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) came out with his shield and took those companions inside his home.

He advised them that there were greater purposes which they were yet to fulfil and so they should not fight. As some of the companions left at the behest of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him), some of the senior companions felt that no matter what, it was their duty to remain there and protect their Caliph. The rebels set fire and burned down the front gate. Upon seeing this, the remaining companions took their arms and went towards the rebels. Though they were few in number, the companions fought valiantly.

SERMON: 12 March 2021

Men of Excellence Hazrat Usman (Allah be pleased with him)

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, Huzoor continued highlighting incidents from the life of Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him).

Amir Mu'awiyah's Suggestions

Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) performed his last Hajj about a year before his demise. At the time, the rebels had already started creating their disorder. Amir Mu'awiyah had accompanied Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) and suggested that he should go to Syria with him, as the disorder was rising. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) replied that under no circumstance would he leave the proximity of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Then Amir Mu'awiyah suggested that he would send a Syrian army for protection. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) replied that he would not allow for such an expense to be incurred by the treasury simply for his protection. Then Amir Mu'awiyah replied that the only reason this disorder could rise was that senior companions were present in Madinah and the rebels could think that if they did away with Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) then one of them could take care of matters after him. Thus, Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) should send them away and spread them out in various places. Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) replied that he could not disperse those whom the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) had gathered. Upon this, Amir Mu'awiyah was in tears, and said that Hazrat Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) should at least announce that should anything happen to him, Amir Mu'awiyah had permission to take retribution.

Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) replied that whatever was destined to happen would come to pass, and he could not do this either.

Admonishing the Rebel Captors

Whilst Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) was imprisoned in his own home by the rebels, he warned his besiegers that if they dared to kill him, they would never be able to offer prayers together, nor would they ever be united in fighting back against the enemy. The rebels did not pay any heed to these words.

Martyrdom

When the rebels saw there were devoted Muslims gathered by the door of Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) they realised that it would be difficult to enter into his home. Thus, they decided to go into a neighbour's home and climb over the wall from there. When they entered Hazrat Uthman's ^(Allah be pleased with him) home, they found him reciting the Holy Qur'an. Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) knew beforehand that this was the day he would be martyred, and so he had assigned two people to stand guard at the treasury, so that no matter what happened, no one could steal from the treasury. First, Hazrat Abu Bakr's son advanced, and harshly pulled Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) by the beard. Upon this, Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) said to him that had his father been alive, then he would never have acted in this way. Upon hearing this, he moved away and left. However, the other rebels advanced, and one of them struck Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) on the head with an iron rod. Blood began to drip from his head. The rebels, without any regard, kicked the copy of the Holy Qur'an which he had been reciting. Incidentally, the blood of Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) fell onto the following verse:

'and Allah will surely avenge thee against them, for He is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.' (2:138)

The rebels continued to attack. Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) tried blocking the strike which cut his hand. At this moment, Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) said that this was the hand which first wrote down verses of the Holy Qur'an. At this time, Hazrat Uthman's ^(Allah be pleased with him) wife stepped forward and stood before him, but those rebels did not even hesitate in attacking a woman, as a result of which her fingers were cut. Then they continued attacking Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) until they martyred him. 'Surely to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return.'

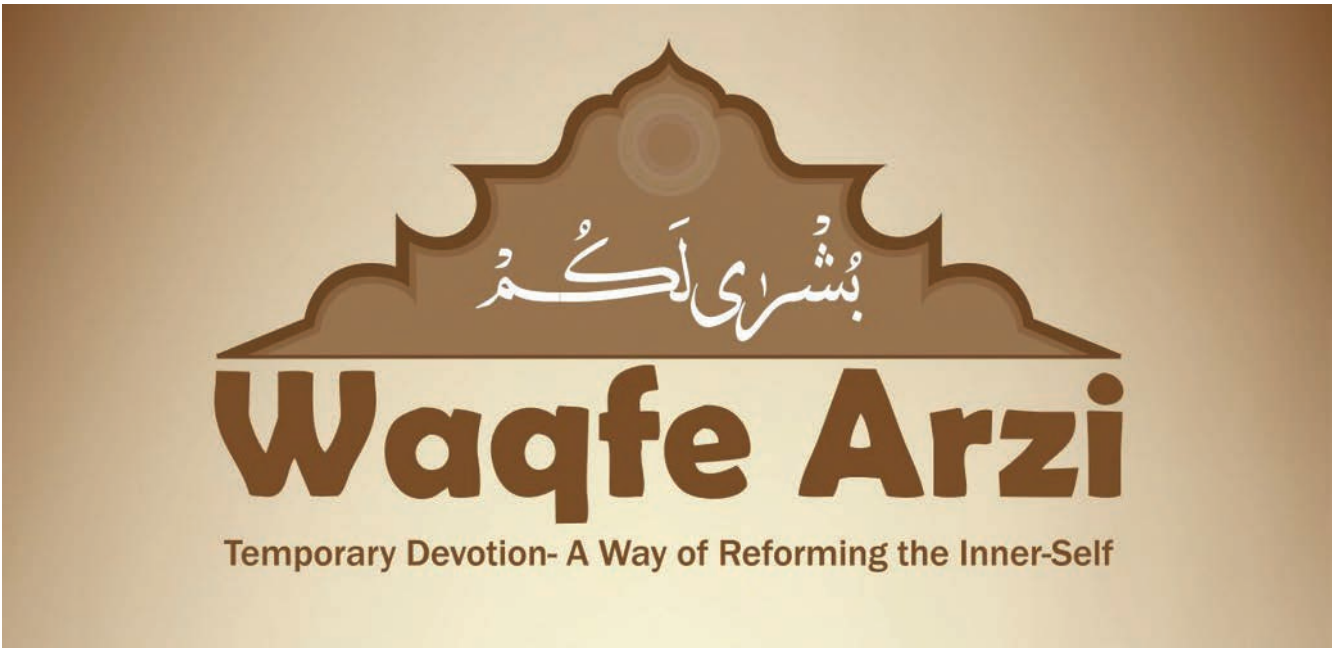
Fearless Display

Huzoor continued quoting Hazrat Musleh Maood who related the incident and said that as the rebels were attacking Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him), they were using foul language about his wife, and even further, about Hazrat A'ishah. Yet despite it all, Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) never feared martyrdom. Even when the rebels entered his home, he continued reciting the Holy Qur'an without any fear.

After the martyrdom of Hazrat Uthman ^(Allah be pleased with him) people began to understand the true importance of Khilafat.

Let the youth understand the importance of prayer. The five-time daily prayer – Salat – is obligatory for each and every Muslim. Make them realise the importance of it by providing them verses from the Holy Quran, the Ahadith and the passages of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

HAZRAT KHALIFATUL
MASIH V



Waqfe Arzi Scheme

On 12th March 1966 Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III, Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad (Allah have mercy on him), introduced the Waqfe Arzi scheme. The purpose of this project is to promote the learning and teaching of the Holy Quran as well as imparting religious knowledge to local members. Under Waqfe Arzi, at their own expense, thousands of Ahmadis are teaching the Holy Qur'an to the members, exhorting them to do good deeds and shun evil.

The net result of this activity is that members of the Community are receiving religious education and moral training, which in turn is strengthening their character.

When this scheme was first launched, many members of the community readily answered the call of the Khalifa of the time by saying "Labayk" (*we are here*) and put themselves forward for temporary dedication. In reference to why this scheme was started, Huzoor says:

"The main purpose of the Waqfe Arzi scheme is that members of the community should at their own expense voluntarily go to various Jama'ats and organise classes for the learning and teaching of the Holy Quran. The local Jama'ats should be so organised that they should willingly and happily take up the yoke of the Holy Qur'an upon their shoulders and set an example for the world."

This year in 2021, Huzoor launched a Virtual Waqfe Arzi scheme. The target is to attain 1,000 Waaqifeen Arzi (short-term dedication). The period of Waqf can be between 3 days to 6 weeks and the mode of Waqf is currently virtual, via Zoom, MS Teams, Phone, etc

The place of Waqf will be provided by the department of Talimul Qur'an & Waqfe Arzi UK. Devotees from Ansar and Khuddam will do their waqf duties in cooperation with the local President. A Lajna devotee shall complete her Waqf duties in cooperation with the local Lajna President.

- The devotee shall spend his/her time in:
- Zikre Ilahi (remembrance of Allah)
- Offering Tahajjud prayers in addition to obligatory prayers
- Recitation of the Holy Qur'an
- Teaching of the Holy Qur'an
- Tarbiyyat and Tabligh activities
- Visiting the sick and elderly people
- Waqare Amal
- Promoting Waqf-e-Arzi Scheme and any other activity in cooperation with and under the direction of the President of the delegated Jama'at.

If any Jama'at member is interested in applying for Waqfe Arzi, they can apply online here: <https://ahmadiyya.uk/nqc/waqf-e-arzi/>



Virtual Meetings held with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V

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

Virtual Meeting of UK Waqf-e-Nau With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 28 February 2021, Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V held a virtual online meeting UK Waqf-e-Nau. Huzoor presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, whilst the Waqf-e-Nau joined the meeting virtually.

The event started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an, followed by a poem and sayings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). Huzoor Aqdas was given a video presentation of the various engaging talks and presentations held the previous day at the Waqf-e-Nau Virtual Retreat organised by the Waqf-e-Nau department of Majlis Khuddam-ul-Ahmadiyya UK.

During the rest of the 50-minute meeting, members had the opportunity to speak directly to Huzoor Aqdas and asked questions on various matters relating to their future career choices, the importance and objectives of dedicating their lives and the challenges facing the youth in this day and age.

Huzoor was asked how a Waqf-e-Nau student of medicine should study to ensure that he becomes the best possible medical professional for the benefit

of humanity and in order to fulfil the pledge of being a Waqf-e-Nau. In response, Huzoor Aqdas stated,

"A medical student should study regardless of whether he is a Waqf-e-Nau or not. You will not attain a degree if you do not study well. Indeed, whether you are a medical student or studying any other field, concentrate in your studies and, alongside this, pay attention towards prayers. Increase your connection with Allah. Offer your five daily prayers at their appointed time."

And continued,

"If an atheist studies and works hard whilst not believing in God, it does not matter; he will receive his recompense from Allah the Almighty for the efforts he puts into his studies. But an Ahmadi Muslim is someone who believes in Islam, in the existence of Allah the Almighty and has certainty that Allah helps him. So, along with his studies he will also have to prove that he has a connection with Allah the Almighty."

Huzoor Anwar further elaborated,

Do not think that just because an atheist attains success, therefore you should attain success too [without prayer]. There is a difference between the two. And you have to consider this difference. It is a very subtle difference and you will have to bear this in mind. If you keep this in mind, you will have



a connection with God and you will pay attention towards your studies and you will then be able to achieve your targets.”

Another question related to what specialisations the Waqf-e-Nau doctors should do to benefit the Jama'at. Huzoor replied,

“We need all kinds of specialists. If you are going to Africa then we need general surgeons there. If we send you to Pakistan, in Rabwah, then we need cardiologists – interventionists or simple cardiologists. Therefore, every Waqf-e-Nau who is becoming a doctor, once he completes his degree, should write and seek guidance as to which specialisation he should go into. There is no general principle. We cannot say, ‘All Waqifeen-e-Nau should go into this field or that field.’ It depends on the requirements and the interests of the individual. I guide them based upon that.”

One student asked what they should give priority to if they are studying, whilst, at the same time, volunteering in various roles within the Jama'at. In reply, Hazrat Amirul Momineen advised,

“Those who are studying in university should see if they can do justice to their Community responsibilities along with their studies. If they cannot do justice then they should mention to their superiors that for a certain time, and particularly during exam periods, it is not possible for them to serve fully. At such times,

focus upon your studies. However, other than the time you spend on your studies, at weekends and other free time, utilise for service of the Jama'at. You should not waste your time in futile pursuits.”

Huzoor continued,

“Do not waste your studies at the excuse of serving the Jama'at. It should not be so. Give first preference to your studies and then use any spare time to serve the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at. When your studies are complete, you should write and inform that you are ready to fulfil your life dedication and that you are giving your complete time for the Jama'at Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Then without any greed, fulfil the purpose of devoting your life and accomplish your life dedication.”

Huzoor Anwar was also asked what prayer or spiritual procedure should be adopted by those looking for work during the difficult period of Covid-19 when many jobs are in short supply. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V stated,

“Do your prayers five times a day and pray whilst prostrating that Allah the Almighty may create ease for us. There is no supplication other than this. The greatest supplication is the observance of the five daily prayers. Allah the Almighty has not said that if you do one particular prayer He will certainly accept it. Allah the Almighty has said that you should do the five daily prayers and fulfil your obligatory prayers and pray during them and He will accept the prayers.”

One of the Waqf-e-Nau asked what sacrifices Waqf-e-Nau members can make which will be acceptable in the sight of Allah the Almighty. In response, Huzoor Aqdas answered,

“Anything you are doing to please Allah the Almighty, for the sake of Allah the Almighty, then He will accept it. Allah the Almighty says that even if you put a morsel of food in your wife’s mouth, for the sake of attaining the love of Allah, even that action will be considered to be your sacrifice and even that will be pleasing to Allah the Almighty. This is the extent of the mercy of Allah!.. What more do you need? Whatever you are doing to achieve the love of Allah and for the sake of Allah, Allah will accept it and consider it as your sacrifice for Him.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen enquired how many of those present were studying engineering and would be devoting their time for the service of the Jama’at after completing their studies. Huzoor advised that after their studies they should gain experience in the field and they can then be sent to Africa under the International Association of Ahmadi Architects and Engineers which helps develop deprived areas of the world by providing water, electricity and other basic necessities.

In a very affectionate exchange, Huzoor Anwar asked if those present had taken part in previous classes that Huzoor has held over the years with children and youth.

Huzoor Aqdas remarked that because of the Covid-19 lockdown it had been a long time since he had met them and they had grown and their appearance had changed.

“You have grown up and many of you have grown very beautiful beards and look older and that is why, maybe I am not able to recognise some of you. It has actually been a very long time since Waqf-e-Nau classes have been held. Covid-19 has caused a lot of problems for everyone in the past year and so I have not even been able to meet you all. Today I am seeing your faces and they have changed, and some of you may even have become married! Anyway, you are handsome by the Grace of Allah but I cannot recognise some of the faces. I will most likely remember your faces if I see older photos of you.”

One of the Waqf-e-Nau members asked for advice for those studying sciences such as physics, biology and chemistry and whether they should focus more

on research or pursue teaching careers. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V said,

“We need people in all fields. Ahmadi Muslim scholars should also go into research. Those studying physics in particular should do so. Those studying biology will go into biomedical sciences and then they can go into research. If someone who is studying biology and chemistry and is unable to enter into medicine, he can go into biomedical sciences. The ones studying chemistry should go into research too. Other than that, if someone is not at the level where they can go into research – their second preference should be teaching. First preference should be research and second preference should be teaching.”

Huzoor continued,

“From amongst the Waqf-e-Nau we need teachers in every subject. We only need a certain percentage to serve in our Ahmadiyya schools. Other than that we need teachers who can teach in external schools here in these countries. If there are good teachers working in these schools they can at least teach good morals to the children. This is something we also have to consider. As many Ahmadi Muslim teachers go into schools to teach, the greater the moral training that can be done of children, regardless of those children being Christians, Buddhists, atheists or Ahmadi Muslims. Wherever an Ahmadi Muslim is present, then other than his own subject, he will be delivering a moral training too to the children. Therefore, teaching is a very good profession.”

Virtual Audience For Jamia Ahmadiyya Bangladesh With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



Students of Jamia Ahmadiyya Bangladesh were granted an audience with Hazrat Amirul Momineen on 13 February 2021. Huzoor Aqdas chaired the 60 minute meeting from his office in Islamabad Tilford while the Jamia students were seated in their Jamia in Ahmad Nagar Bangladesh.

It was the first time Huzoor had held a class like this with Jamia Ahmadiyya Bangladesh.

The event began with the recitation of the Holy Qur’an, followed by a poem and sayings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and an excerpt from the pronouncements of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

During the course of the meeting a video presentation



was given where Huzoor was shown the premises of Jamia Ahmadiyya Bangladesh and the neighbouring areas where members lived.

The Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Bangladesh presented an outline of the history of Jamia Ahmadiyya in Bangladesh and its progress since. One student sought the guidance of Hazrat Amirul Momineen about how best to study and learn the Jamia Ahmadiyya syllabus. In response, Huzoor advised,

“The best way to learn is that you read over what you are going to study in class in advance. Ask your teachers to tell you beforehand what they are going to teach. Then, whatever is taught in class, revise that when you return to your hostel. So, read up on the lecture beforehand and then revise it afterwards. This way you will be able to remember it. You should also pray to Allah the Almighty as well that may He enlighten your intellect and enable you to memorise what you are studying.”

Another question related to forging a closer bond of love with God Almighty. In reply, Huzoor explained,

“If you obey Allah, you will become His beloved. The love must be mutual. What did the companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) do? The companions loved the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), according to the Holy Qur’an. In the Holy

Qur’an it states in relation to the injunction that Muslims must be obedient to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and says that “Follow me: then will Allah love you.” So what is obedience? It is to follow the practice of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and to observe one’s prayers like the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) would observe his prayers, with complete devotion and concentration.”

Huzoor further stated,

“The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) offered voluntary prayers and so, you should do the same. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) would spend time in the remembrance of Allah and so you should do so as well. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) received people with the very best manners and grace and so you should meet people in this way. If we act in this way, we will become Allah’s beloved.”

And added,

“So, offer the five daily prayers with due care, recite the Holy Quran and strive to understand it and act on the instructions of God. Along with your worship, fulfil the rights of mankind. This is what makes a person beloved to Allah the Almighty and these are the qualities a Missionary should inculcate within



himself. When you inculcate these qualities within yourself, you will become a successful Missionary. You will be among those who call people towards God Almighty and you will also be the ones who draw attention towards fulfilling the rights of people. You must first set your own high moral standard – only then will you be able to become a successful Missionary. This is what will make you become the beloved of God.”

Another student asked about how they can inculcate within themselves the true spirit of life dedication. In reply Huzoor Anwar stated,

“Always remember that the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) was given a revelation by God Almighty that, “He is pleased with your humble ways.” And so be humble. Never succumb to arrogance upon gaining knowledge. Other than that, whilst being truly consumed with humility, be mindful of the words of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) that “I was poor and helpless; unknown and without skills.”

Huzoor continued,

“So inculcate within yourself the firm realisation that, ‘I was nothing and Allah gave me the ability to come to Jamia and Allah the Almighty gave me the ability to graduate from Jamia as a missionary and Allah the Almighty granted me the opportunity to serve and ensure the moral training of others. Allah

gave me the opportunity to propagate the message of Islam and He enabled me to teach the faith.’ If you think in this way it will naturally instil humility within you and bring you closer to God Almighty.”

Upon being asked about his meetings with various world leaders and influential figures, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V said,

“Firstly, we must never fear any person. We are Ahmadi Muslims and so we should have a firm conviction that we need not be overawed by any person. After all, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) was given the revelation that ‘You have been helped with prestige.’ Further, before such meetings, I pray that Allah the Almighty may help me and open the minds and soften the hearts of those who I shall address. Additionally, there are other prayers I offer. So always remember that there is no need to be afraid of any person.”

Hazoor further explained,

“We are the ones that are tasked with guiding the world. When you understand and comprehend this then you should have no fear knowing that Allah’s help is with us and in the knowledge that the promise of Allah the Almighty to support and help the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) is eternal. So, by the grace of God I have never encountered any fear or nerves regardless of how prominent or powerful the leader is who I am meeting.”

One of the trainee missionaries asked about the meaning of the revelation of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) which states that "Kings will seek blessings from your garments." Explaining the revelation, Huzoor Anwar replied,

"It means that in every action of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and in every saying of his and in his clothes, there are blessings - everything associated with the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) is blessed. Therefore, according to this revelation, even the great kings, will one day consider it an immense blessing and honour to be gifted with some cloth of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)."

And continued,

"In this day and age it is not possible for every person to attain the blessings of the physical clothes of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). However, we can all be recipients of his blessings by implementing his teachings and striving to fulfil his mission. We should be seeking all of the blessings associated with him and of his advent and the great rejuvenation of Islam that has taken place through the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)... It is through the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) that the world is destined to unite under the banner of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). These are the blessings the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has bequeathed to us and it is now our responsibility to benefit from them and to spread them to the corners of the world."

Thereafter, Hazrat Amirul Momineen mentioned that he wore the ring that belonged to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) which bears the inscription of the verse of the Holy Qur'an once revealed to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) stating, "Is not Allah sufficient for His servant?". Huzoor stated,

"This ring that I am wearing with the inscription "Is not Allah sufficient for His servant?", it is the ring of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). I am wearing it due to the desire to benefit from and derive the blessings associated with it. So, whoever has the opportunity to gain blessings of the physical things which are blessed, they should benefit from those blessings. However, above all, as I have said, each Jamia student should try to attain the spiritual blessings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) which are the blessings of spreading his

teachings and fulfilling his mission and purpose."

On the subject of preaching, one of the students mentioned that whilst some people were moving away from religion, others were developing extremist tendencies and asked what the best way should be to deal with both kinds of people. Responding Huzoor Aqdas explained,

"Those who have moved away from religion have become materialistic. Nowadays in the world, a large proportion of the people is no longer interested in religion. Amongst them, the Muslims are less expressive that they have moved away from faith but in reality, even their situation is similar to the rest. People of other faiths express openly as well that they do not believe in God Almighty. Therefore, atheism is spreading fast. People are consumed by materialism and worldliness has overcome them. This was in fact the image that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) depicted of the latter days and these were the exact circumstances that were foretold would lead to the advent of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him)."

Advising the best way to preach to those who had developed extremist tendencies, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V said,

"We must explain and educate those who have extremist tendencies of the true and peaceful teachings of Islam. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) said that all people must be informed of the true teachings of Islam. Indeed, the purpose of his coming was to inform that Islam has two purposes, firstly to bring people closer to God and to fulfil His rights and secondly to make people fulfil the rights of one another."

Advising on how to speak to those who held extreme and misinformed notions about Islam, Huzoor Anwar opined,

"Those who are extremists must be told that extremism has no place in Islam. The life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was spent entirely doing good towards others. The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) has been given the title of "a mercy for all peoples" in the Holy Quran. Can anyone find even one incident where the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) imposed a war on people? Never! In the Holy Quran the commandment of war was first given is in Chapter 22 verses 40 and

41. In these verses, Allah the Almighty says that the adversaries have exceeded all bounds in their cruelties and so a defensive war may be fought to stop them. It also states that Allah the Almighty repels some men by means of others and if these people continue their injustices, then no synagogue of Jews, churches, or any temples or mosques will remain intact. Thus, when Allah the Almighty gave the commandment permitting a war, He did so for the sake of protecting all religions.”

Huzoor Aqdas further stated:

“Islam opposes extremism and does not support it. The life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) bears witness to the fact that he never supported extremism. He always forgave people and laid forth the greatest example of forgiveness at the time of the Victory of Mecca when he said to the Meccans, ‘No blame shall lie on you this day.’ He said these words to such people who had carried out severe torture and unparalleled cruelties. So, we must tell this to the extremists and ask them what wrongful acts have they become involved in! This was not the teaching of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)... The Holy Quran is full of such benevolent teachings and the practice and life and character of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and his every moment is witness to the fact that he always practiced and preached teachings of love, kindness and peace. These are the teachings you must inform people about.”

One of the students mentioned that some of the non-Ahmadi Muslims that he tried to approach whilst preaching were unwilling to listen. Huzoor advised,

“It is their misfortune then that they wish not to listen to the truth. Pray for them. Do not preach to them about the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Firstly, pray for them that Allah the Almighty may soften their hearts. Secondly, tell them, ‘At least you are a Muslim, so let us speak about the life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and the life of his companions and the commandments of the Holy Quran.’ So, when they will see that you are speaking of the Holy Quran and you are following its teachings and you speak about your love for the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and the love for the companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), they will continue to

speak to you and eventually a time will come when they will realise that the teachings are the same and so they will say, let us listen to what else you have to say, so then they will begin to listen to you.”

And continued:

“This will take time and require patience. The Holy Quran states that, “Call unto the way of thy Lord with wisdom and goodly exhortation.” If they do not wish to listen in one way then deal with them in another way. This is one method I have mentioned but you may look for other ways yourself too according to your circumstances to see how you can convince these people. The other aspect is prayer. Prayer is very powerful and strong and if you pray for them then Allah has the power to do all things. He is the Master. If God deems it that these people should adopt softness in their hearts and their end should be good, then He will open up their hearts. However, we should always make an effort from our side to guide and not give up. This was the injunction given to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) that he should convey the message and propagate the message but it is not incumbent upon you that the people you preach to must certainly believe.”

Virtual Meeting of Waqf-e-Nau From Bangladesh With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 30 January 2021, Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V held a virtual online meeting with over 135 Waqfeen-e-Nau from Bangladesh.

Huzoor presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, while the Waqfeen-e-Nau joined from the National Headquarters of the Jama’at in Bangladesh at the Darut Tabligh Mosque complex in Dhaka.

The event began with the recitation of the Holy Qur’an, followed by a poem and sayings of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) and the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

For the rest of the one-hour meeting, members took the opportunity to ask Huzoor Anwar a series of questions on various issues.

Whilst responding to a question about how a Waqf-e-Nau can better fulfil their pledge of dedicating



their lives for the service of Islam, Hazrat Amirul Momineen advised,

“Before your birth your parents dedicated your life in the cause of Islam and when you reached the age of 15 you renewed the bond of Waqf-e-Nau. If you keep this in mind, then you will recognise that you are life devotee for the cause of the Jama’at and for that the first and foremost duty of a Waqf-e-Nau is to obey, follow and practice the commandments of Allah the Almighty... You can only maintain the spirit of the Waqf-e-Nau when you realise that you have to follow the commandments and the injunctions given in the Holy Quran by Allah the Almighty.”

Huzoor Aqdas continued,

“You must offer the five daily prayers and the best way for boys is to offer the five daily prayers in congregation. Pray to Allah fervently in those prayers that He save you from all bad things and enables you to discharge your duties as Waqf-e-Nau and to follow all the commandments of Allah the Almighty. Secondly, you should also recite the Holy Qur’an daily and not only recite the Holy Quran in Arabic text but also try to know the meaning of it.”

Huzoor further explained that maintaining a strong relationship with Khilafat is vital,

“Always try to strengthen your bond with Khilafat and that can only be done if you are listening to all the addresses, speeches and instructions given to you by the Khalifa of the time. In this way you can strengthen your faith and be a good Waqf-e-Nau.”

One of the younger Waqf-e-Nau participants asked why God had sent the coronavirus. Huzoor Aqdas replied,

“Many illnesses come in the world. For example, an outbreak of typhoid occurs from time to time or the flu or some other illness. Sometimes those illnesses

which become widespread global pandemics are sent by Allah the Almighty to remind mankind that there is a God and so they may come towards Him and seek forgiveness for their sins and try to save themselves from the illness and do good deeds.”

One participant mentioned that Huzoor had appointed him to serve as a doctor in a hospital in Liberia being run by the Jama’at. He asked for prayers and Huzoor’s guidance. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V advised,

“My guidance to you is that you should serve the African people with true sincerity and with a spirit of service. The African people are such that if they are treated well and are looked after then they will be sincerely grateful to you and they will also be happy that the Jama’at is serving them. If you do not behave well and do not show a good example then instead of serving appropriately as a life devotee doctor, you will come to defame our Community. Always remember you are going there for the sake of Allah with a spirit of service for mankind. So therefore, you must please God by serving the people.”

Another doctor appointed to serve as a life devotee in a medical facility being built by the Jama’at in Bangladesh also asked for prayers and guidance. Huzoor Anwar said,

“You must work hard and pray. A doctor should always remember that Allah is the one who cures a patient and so that is why whenever you see a patient, do so after having prayed and when you write a prescription, write ‘Huwash-Shafi’ [‘God is He who cures’] on top of that prescription... And in your prayers at night pray for those patients whom you have seen that Allah grants health to them and Allah places His cure (shifa) in your hands.”

Hazrat Amirul Momineen further advised,

“Treat each patient with great kindness and special attention. If you do so, then much of the illness of the patient will improve simply by your good bedside manner and the other half will be cured by the medication. If you pray and give medicine then Allah will enable you to successfully treat a maximum number of those patients who come to you and through you, Allah will give them health.”

A Waqf-e-Nau asked what productive forms of entertainment members of the Waqf-e-Nau scheme

should view. Huzoor Aqdas mentioned that rather than watching TV dramas or films, educational programmes should be viewed instead. Further, Huzoor again highlighted the importance of the five daily prayers and said that the Holy Qur'an has mentioned that offering the five daily prayers stops a person from indulging in immorality and so one should make all efforts to offer the prayers with due diligence.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V added that rather than playing computer and online games, which make a person lazy and affect their mental health, it was better to adopt outdoor activities and sport and to seek good company for one's friends.

In response to another question about laziness and how to avoid it, Huzoor Aqdas stated that children and young adults should seek to work hard and consistently. He advised them to produce a daily time-chart to ensure their hours were spent in a productive and efficient manner and said that each day should start with the worship of God Almighty. Huzoor stated,

"How can we get rid of laziness? With determination. Make it a point that you are not going to be lazy. First you should get up early in the morning for Fajr prayer and then recite the Holy Qur'an. In your prayers, you should pray to Allah The Almighty that He removes your laziness."

Hazrat Amirul Momineen continued,

"The foremost thing is personal determination. No other person can help you in this regard. You yourself have to take measures. A doctor can only prescribe medicine. He cannot put the medicine in your mouth forcefully. You have to get your treatment by yourself. Offer five daily prayers on time and pray to Allah the Almighty that He removes your laziness."

Virtual Meeting of Waqfaat-e-Nau From Bangladesh With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 31 January 2021, Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V held a virtual online meeting with over 130 Waqfaat-e-Nau from Bangladesh.

Huzoor Aqdas presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, while the Waqfaat-e-Nau joined

the session from the Darut Tabligh Mosque complex in Dhaka, which serves as the National Headquarters of the Bangladesh Jama'at.

The event started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an, followed by a poem and a saying of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) and an excerpt from the writings of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

For the remaining 55-minute of the meeting, members of Waqfaat-e-Nau took the opportunity to ask Huzoor a series of questions on various subjects. In response to a question about the spiritual status that women can attain, Hazrat Amirul Momineen explained,

"Other than prophethood, according to the Holy Qur'an, women can attain the spiritual rank of a Siddiq (truthful), Shaheed (martyr), Salihat (righteous). There is a Hadith where a female companion of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) asked, 'Men can attain martyrdom and they take part in battles and make great sacrifices. But those of us women who are at our homes, what is our status?' The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) replied, 'When you look after your homes and raise your children well and nurture the next generation and guard over the homes, you will attain the same reward as men.'"

Huzoor Anwar further stated,

"By ensuring the moral and spiritual state of their homes and living a righteous life, women can attain a truly great spiritual status. After all, they are the mothers of the prophets! Indeed, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) has said that 'Paradise lies under the feet of the mothers' and so the status of a woman is such that if they bring up their children in a pious way they will prove to be the means of unlocking the doors to heaven. What can be greater than this? Remember, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) did not state that 'heaven lies under the feet of one's father.' Thus, the status of a mother in Islam is of the highest rank and consequently the status of a woman is very high. It is a rank and status that no one else can compete with – so long as a woman is firm in her faith and ensures the moral and spiritual upbringing of the next generation."

One of the younger participants asked how she could



become a good Waqf-e-Nau from a young age.

Huzoor Aqdas advised her that when she reaches the age of seven she should start offering the five daily prayers regularly and learn how to read the Holy Qur'an and recite it daily. Additionally, Huzoor said that children should listen to their parents and that Waqfaat-e-Nau should be known for their good character. Huzoor Anwar Ahmad said,

"Always remember that you are Waqf-e-Nau. You have to behave well and always be polite and kind to your fellow girls and fellow students and manifest the highest standards of conduct so that every person who knows you testifies to the fact that you are extremely well mannered and of good character. You can then tell them, 'It is because I am Waqf-e-Nau that I am well behaved and seek to do good.'"

One Waqf-e-Nau member asked about how a person could best show gratitude to God Almighty.

In reply, Khalifatul Masih V said:

"The best way to be grateful to Allah the Almighty is that when you say 'All praise belongs to Allah,' you should do so whilst keeping in mind all the favours of God that He has bestowed upon you. Even if a person has to face some trials and tribulations, they should bear them with patience and remember that Allah has conferred upon them countless other bounties and blessings. Those favours should always be borne in mind and never forgotten."

Huzoor narrated the story of a king and his courtier. The king offered his courtier a fruit which turned out to be very bitter, however the courtier ate the fruit and highly praised it and expressed gratitude. When the king realised the fruit was bitter he asked his courtier why he had praised it. The courtier replied

that it would have been ungrateful of him to spit it out and complain and forget all past favours he had received from the king and so it did not behove him to show any ingratitude.

Huzoor also related a saying of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) that a person should always look at those less fortunate than himself in matters of materialism and thus express gratitude for the favours that God has shown us. However, in matters of faith and spirituality, a person should look at those of a higher rank and should try to attain their status and excel them. His Holiness said this was the way to become truly grateful to God.

Huzoor was asked how he was as a student in his secular education and what he had desired to be when he grew up and if His Holiness had any guidance for those who were currently studying.

Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said,

"I was not the best of students but all of you should strive to excel in your studies. Nowadays without studying it is difficult to survive and because you are Waqf-e-Nau and you have dedicated your lives, you should strive to become an asset for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Therefore, by studying and gaining knowledge strive to improve and excel so that you may be able to better the lives of the future generations and be in a position to guide and protect them."

Hazrat Amirul Momineen further stated:

"When I was young I had many aspirations and sometimes I thought I would become one thing and at other times I thought of becoming something else. Eventually, because I had an interest in agriculture, I did a degree in that and thereafter I dedicated my life for the sake of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and Allah gave me the opportunity to do so. Anyway, this desire to dedicate my life was one that I had from childhood and which I was able to fulfil with the Grace of God."

Huzoor Aqdas continued:

"I had many other wishes whereby I thought I may become one thing or another and then I would dedicate my life. I could not become any of those but Allah gave me the opportunity to dedicate my life and ultimately Allah the Almighty brought me to this"

position. Anyway, my guidance for all of you is that because you have dedicated your lives, you should work diligently, study hard and seek to achieve a high standard in your studies. Even if later, you do not go into employment, you will benefit from your education and will be able to use it to help the future generation."

A mother mentioned the challenges she faced raising her young child. She said that having a small child often left her exhausted and she sought the guidance of His Holiness in this regard. In response, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said,

"Even if you find it difficult, you should not express your anger at your child or take out your frustration upon her. Rather, you should explain to the child that you are tired and you are going to rest and reassure her that you will play with her afterwards. Children are naturally intelligent and they do understand. You can even tell her that you are tired and so she should press your legs or massage your head and the child will begin to enjoy that too. In this way you can guide and train her but do not show anger, do not shout and do not say anything negative to them."

The mother who asked this question also enquired what prayer she should recite in order to best control her emotions, upon which His Holiness said she should recite Durood Shareef – invoking blessings upon the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him).

In another question, Huzoor Aqdas was asked that apart from God who had been a source of emotional support that His Holiness had relied upon during his period of Khilafat in the face of adversity and the intense opposition and persecution faced by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

Huzoor Aqdas replied and said,

"There is no one else. It is only Allah the Almighty. Only Allah helps me and no one else has the strength to help me."

At the end of the meeting, His Holiness prayed that the Waqf-e-Nau members be those who lived up to their pledge of devoting their lives for the sake of Islam.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen said:



"May Allah the Almighty protect you and keep you safe and, as female members of the Waqf-e-Nau scheme, may you all come to fulfil the true purpose and objectives of the dedication of your lives for the sake of your faith and be those who protect and nurture the future generation in the best way. May a pious Ahmadi Muslim generation be born and raised through you and may they become those who carry forth the propagation of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and spread its message in Bangladesh. I also pray that may you soon be relieved from the evil clutches of the fanatical religious clerics in your country and may Allah the Almighty always be your Helper and Protector."

Virtual Meeting of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya From Bangladesh With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



Virtual Meeting of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Bangladesh With Hazrat Amirul Momineen

Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Bangladesh received the honour of a meeting with Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V on 7th February 2021. Huzoor presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad Tilford, while the Khuddam joined from the Darut Tabligh Mosque complex in Dhaka, which serves as the National Headquarters of the Jama'at in Bangladesh.

During the meeting, Khuddam were able to present a report of their respective departmental activities and proposed future plans. Huzoor Aqdas issued instructions regarding the moral and religious training of Khuddam and ensuring that Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya continually progressed.

Huzoor encouraged the heads of national departments to diligently provide regular feedback to the reports that are received from regional and local chapters of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Bangladesh to analyse their activities and help them



improve.

Huzoor Anwar also instructed Khuddam to increase their service to humanity and, reflecting Islam's teachings, should proactively seek to help and assist people in need irrespective of caste, creed or colour. Huzoor Aqdas further stated that the Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya administration should engage with hospitals and other relevant agencies to register Ahmadi Muslim youth as blood donors so they can be of assistance to the people of the country at times of need. Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated,

“Our Ahmadi Muslim youth should donate blood not only to help our own members but it should be donated to other members of society and you should work with hospitals and blood banks to register our members for this service to humanity. The people should know that Ahmadi Muslims are those who serve all of humanity.”

Huzoor further said that a greater number of young people should be encouraged to do physical activities and exercise in order to maintain good physical health.

Speaking to the Mohtamim Students Affairs, Huzoor

Anwar said that the department should organise University seminars where both Ahmadi Muslims and others are invited to present new research on secular topics so that innovative ideas can be shared whilst putting aside religious differences.

Huzoor also appreciated that during the Covid-19 pandemic Khuddam had reached out to hospitals and volunteered to help keep them clean.

Virtual Meeting of Lajna Imaillah Ghana with Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 24 January 2021, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V held a virtual online meeting with members of the National Amila of Lajna Imaillah.

Huzoor presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, whilst the National Amila members joined from the Wahab Adam MTA Studios at Bustan-e-Ahmad in Accra.

During the meeting, Huzoor Aqdas outlined the various responsibilities assigned to the respective Lajna members and gave guidance on improving the activities of their respective departments.

One Amila member asked Huzoor what expectations he had of Lajna Imaillah Ghana. In a detailed answer, Huzoor Anwar explained,

“My expectations are that 100% of your Lajna members should be regular in offering five daily prayers. My expectation of you is that 100% of your Lajna members should do recitation of the Holy Quran daily. My expectation is that at least 50% of your Lajna members involve themselves in preaching and Tabligh activities. My expectation is that 100% of Lajna members study some book of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). My expectation is that all Lajna members who are married should train and bring up their children in a way that they become good Ahmadi Muslims.”

Huzoor added,

“My expectation is that all the Nasirat members are regular in offering prayers and the recitation of the Holy Quran and try to increase their Islamic knowledge. Try to learn what the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) expected from us – that is to increase our level of piety and righteousness. My expectation is that all the Lajna members should follow the motto of ‘modesty is the part of your faith.’ So, these are some of my expectations and if you achieve this you will be one of the best Lajna of the world and I hope that Ghana Lajna can be one of the best Lajnas in the world.”

In response to a question about how Ahmadi Muslims should pray so that the world may avoid another World War, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih advised,

“The best way is to first reform yourselves and try to follow the teachings and commandments given to us in the Holy Quran and try to be a good Muslim. We must follow the teachings of Islam. Whilst in prostration during our five daily prayers, we must pray fervently that, ‘Allah the Almighty, save us from the torment of the world war. And also save us from the ill-effects of this coronavirus and also save us from all bad things so that the world becomes a place of peace for us.”

Continuing, Huzoor Aqdas explained,

“So, we must first try to reform ourselves, we must try to better ourselves, we must try to follow all the commandments of the Holy Qur’an given to us by Allah the Almighty. If we do this, God willing, Allah

the Almighty will remove all the difficulties and He will make this world a peaceful place to live, like a heaven. Even Allah the Almighty says in the Holy Quran that you can develop and create paradise on this earth and that can only be achieved when you are following Allah the Almighty’s commandments.”

One Amila member asked how they could ensure 100% literacy amongst the members of Lajna Imaillah and Nasiratul Ahmadiyya. In response, Huzoor Aqdas said that Lajna Imaillah Ghana should seek to ensure that all Ahmadi Muslim girls are literate and have proper schooling. Further, all those who seek higher education should have the opportunity to pursue it.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated,

“The Nasirat Secretary [Secretary for Girls] should make it an objective to ensure all the Nasirat members should at least complete their middle school. When the girls enter Lajna Imaillah, the Secretary Umoore-Talibat [Student Affairs] should then try to identify their talents. They should be given the opportunity to have better and higher education and to go to university. If because of some financial restraints or some other problems, they cannot do so, then we should help them and so we should not let the talent or potential of even one girl go to waste.”

Virtual Meeting of Majlis-e-Amila Gambia With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 14 February 2021, Majlis-e-Amila Gambia were granted a virtual audience with Hazrat Amirul Momineen Khalifatul Masih V. Huzoor presided. During the almost 70-minute meeting, all present had the opportunity to speak to Huzoor. Members received guidance and instructions from Hazrat Amirul Momineen on a range of issues.

Huzoor advised that Ahmadi Muslim students should be encouraged to enter into public and civil service. In this way, Ahmadi Muslims would be at the forefront of guiding the people of the nation towards serving their country with integrity while upholding the requirements of justice and equality in all sectors of society.

Regarding the religious training of Ahmadi Muslims living in The Gambia, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V advised,



“Ahmadi Muslims in your country should be asked to read the books of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) that have been translated into English.”

Huzoor Aqdas further mentioned the need for Amila members to lead by example and dedicate their time for Waqf-e-Arzi – sacrificing a two-week period to help teach the Holy Qur’an or to convey the teachings of Islam to the wider public. Huzoor Anwar stated that Amila members should go beyond their local areas and spend time in Waqf-e-Arzi away from their home towns. Huzoor also instructed that the Jama’at should try to develop its own farm.

Hazrat Amirul Momineen enquired about the various schools being run by the Jama’at in The Gambia that were providing primary and secondary education to children. This service was being rendered to all irrespective of their caste, creed or colour.

As the meeting concluded, a video presentation was made showing the various buildings of the Jama’at in The Gambia including the Ahmadiyya Muslim Centenary Printing Press, the Baitus Salam Premises which serve as the headquarters of the Jama’at in The Gambia, the MTA studios and the Light FM Radio station.

Virtual Meeting of Waqf-e-Nau From Indonesia With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 23 January 2021, Hazrat Amirul Momineen granted a virtual online audience to 50 Waqf-e-Nau from Indonesia.

Huzoor presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, while the Waqf-e-Nau joined

from the Ar-Rahmat Hall at the Al-Hidayah Mosque complex in Jakarta.

The event commenced with a recitation from the Holy Qur’an, followed by a poem and a presentation and brief report outlining the activities of the Waqf-e-Nau in Indonesia.

For the rest of the one-hour meeting, members of Waqf-e-Nau took the opportunity to ask Huzoor a series of questions regarding various subjects which Huzoor Aqdas illuminated with his replies.

One question concerned marriage and how one can ensure success in this. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V stated,

“Always think that you, as a husband, must set a positive example in your home and always remember that if the relationship between a husband and wife is not good then your children will suffer and in this way you will be destroying the future of the next Ahmadi generation. So, the best way is that the husband should set a good example within the house and he should always be polite and kind to his wife and children. If he behaves like this then there will be no trouble in his house and his children will get better training and education and they will improve their behaviour also.”

When asked about climate change and how it can be best tackled, Huzoor Aqdas pointed out,

“Climate change is a problem everywhere, all across the world. Especially in the third world countries where the population is increasing disproportionately. Just to accommodate the increased population, nations are developing new residential areas and because



of this, forests are being cut and this deforestation is a major cause of climate change. So you have to be very particular that whenever one tree is cut, two trees should be planted in return."

Continuing, Huzoor explained,

"Fuel consumption should also be reduced. Now people have become so lazy that if they want to go from one place to the other place and the distance is only 100 yards or 200 yards, instead of walking to the place they use their motorbike or car. In this way pollution is increasing. There are so many other factors which are also causing pollution and climate change. So we have to be very careful. Although, we cannot say that because of the fear of climate change we should not have children."

Huzoor went on to say that human beings should do all that is in their capacity to combat climate change and change their ways for the sake of the future of the human race.

Huzoor Aqdas referred to the specific effect of climate change in Indonesia, where its capital city Jakarta is said to be sinking under rising sea levels and is at risk of submerging during the coming decades. Huzoor Anwar said it was not that only Indonesians were afflicted by climate change and nor were they particularly causing it through their means of living. Rather climate change was a global phenomenon, both in cause and effect. Concluding his answer, Huzoor instructed,

"Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya and Waqf-e-Nau should start a scheme for the plantation of trees in the forest and in different areas."

Hazrat Amirul Momineen was asked if Waqf-e-Nau members can enter politics or the civil service. Huzoor said it would be good for more Ahmadi Muslims, including those who are Waqf-e-Nau, to enter public service and to strive to establish better human rights for all people.

In response to a question about how those who are Waqf-e-Zindighis (life devotees) of the Jama'at can maintain the spirit of dedication to the cause of God Almighty, Hazrat Amirul Momineen responded,

"Being a life devotee, always remember that you are doing your work for the sake of Allah and always think that whatever you do, Allah is always watching over you. And if Allah is seeing us in whatever we are doing, then we should do our work honestly and sincerely. So always remember that we have to do all our work to seek Allah's pleasure. So if a person is working with this spirit then they will serve honestly and with sincerity. Further you must pray to Allah that He may help you to discharge your duties honestly and sincerely."

Another questioner asked what success means in this life and in the Hereafter and how to achieve both to which Huzoor said,

"As far as this world is concerned, whatever you

are doing, wherever you are working, do your job honestly and sincerely... Allah the Almighty has asked that whatever assignment or work is given to you or any job is entrusted to you, then you should do it honestly. In terms of the Hereafter, Allah the Almighty has said that there are certain obligations one must fulfil and these are, that he prays to Allah five times daily and seeks Allah's help with regards both his worldly and spiritual endeavours. Also, be kind and brotherly to your fellow beings. In this way you can also please Allah and in the Hereafter also you will get reward."

One of the Waqf-e-Nau mentioned that he learnt from some documentaries that before being elected Khalifa, Huzoor did not like to be the centre of attention and so he asked how Huzoor had adapted to the new circumstances. In a short but insightful and powerful response, Hazrat Amirul Momineen said,

"I don't know myself. It is Allah who has changed me. That's enough."

Another question was asked on how a person can eliminate laziness. In response, Huzoor Aqdas stated,

"It requires willpower. Make sure that you get up early in the morning and offer Tahajjud prayer and the Fajr prayer and then start your work... It all depends on your willpower; how strong you are. To eliminate laziness you have to be strong enough to overcome it. It all depends on you, how strong you are, how strong your willpower is."

At the end of the meeting, whilst praying for the Waqf-e-Nau, Hazrat Amirul Momineen said,

"May Allah bless you all and may He also enable each and every one of you to strengthen his bond of Waqf-e-Nau and to strengthen his bond to the Khilafat of the Jama'at and to always work hard for the betterment of the Jama'at."

Virtual Meeting of National Majlis-e-Amila Nigeria With Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 20 February 2021, the National Majlis-e-Amila Nigeria were granted a virtual official meeting and audience with Hazrat Amirul Momineen for the very first time. Also present were the principals of Ahmadiyya Muslim Schools in Nigeria, doctors



serving in the Ahmadiyya Muslim Hospitals in Nigeria and Missionaries serving in the country.

Huzoor Aqdas presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford while the Amila members joined the meeting virtually from the Lajna Hall in Ojokoro in Lagos, Nigeria.

During the almost 60-minute meeting, all present had the opportunity to speak to Huzoor and to receive the guidance and instructions on a range of issues.

Speaking to the National Talim Secretary, responsible for the education of the members of the Jama'at in Nigeria, Huzoor said that the department should guide Ahmadi Muslim students throughout their education.

"You should form a counselling and guidance committee. The purpose of the committee will be to guide and counsel the students who are secondary school-going students and guide them what further education they can pursue according to the local conditions and the local requirement."

Huzoor Anwar further advised the National Tarbiyyat Secretary, the secretary responsible for the moral training of Jama'at members, to ensure Ahmadi Muslims living in Nigeria were observant of all Islamic teachings. Huzoor said,

"Each and every Ahmadi Muslim should be very particular and punctual in offering five times daily prayers, should be very particular in reciting the Holy Quran, should be very punctual and regular and particular in reading some books of Hadith and of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). You should prescribe some book also for the members of Jama'at that they can read – those books which have been translated into English – so they can read and know what the purpose of the advent of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) is; what did he say, what does he want from us and how an Ahmadi Muslim should behave."

And added,

“If the Tarbiyyat department is active and you have done your job appropriately and in the best manner, then quite a number of other departments will run smoothly.”

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V instructed that in each and every branch of the Jama’at in Nigeria there should be a local missionary and so, Huzoor said, a detailed plan should be made in this regard to outline how to train missionaries to fulfil this target.

Furthermore, Huzoor Anwar said that every Amila member should commit their time for a two-week Waqf-e-Arzi period whereby the Amila members dedicate their time for helping teach the Holy Qur’an to the members of the Jama’at or to convey the message of Islam to the wider public.

As the meeting concluded, Hazrat Amirul Momineen prayed for the attendees and said:

“As I have already guided some of the secretaries, they should work hard according to my instructions and identify where you are lagging behind and see how you can improve. May Allah the Almighty bless you all.”

Virtual Meeting of Lajna Imaillah Nigeria with Hazrat Amirul Momineen



Lajna Imaillah Nigeria were given the honour of a virtual meeting with Hazrat Amirul Momineen on 21st February 2021.

Huzoor Aqdas presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, whilst the Amila members were located at the Lajna Hall in Ojokoro in Lagos, Nigeria. During the meeting, Huzoor Anwar outlined the various responsibilities assigned to the respective Lajna Amila members and gave guidance on improving the work of their departments.

Speaking to the Secretary Nasirat, Huzoor instructed that their department should keep a good record of how many girls are engaging and taking part in the initiatives that were being run by the national department.

Huzoor Aqdas also encouraged exercise and directed the Secretary Sehat-e-Jismani, responsible for Health



and Fitness, to ensure that the Amila members should lead by example and exercise regularly.

During the meeting, the Secretary Sanat-o-Tijarat, responsible for Trade and Industry, showed some of the products that the Lajna Imaillah members from across the country had made, such as bags and other items. The Secretary highlighted that the Lajna Imaillah members are being assisted in making a living and are being supported in starting their own businesses. They had also assisted the locals during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Later in the meeting, reiterating the importance of gaining higher education, Hazrat Amirul Momineen said,

“Encourage every girl to get higher education.”

As the meeting concluded, Huzoor Aqdas outlined his expectations of Lajna Imaillah saying,

“You have a huge task in front of you and I hope Lajna can achieve it and if you do, it will also encourage the men to be more active. You have to push them! My expectations with Lajna are more than the men. So I hope you fulfil my expectations. May Allah the Almighty bless you in every respect. Allah bless you all.”

Virtual Meeting of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Amila Mauritius with Hazrat Amirul Momineen



On 27 February 2021 Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V held a virtual online meeting with the National Amila of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Mauritius as well as local Qaideen.



Huzoor presided the meeting from his office in Islamabad, Tilford, while the Amila members joined from the Darus Salaam Mosque complex in Rose Hill, which serves as the National Headquarters of the Mauritius Jama'at.

During the meeting, the Khuddam were able to present a report of their respective departmental activities and proposed future plans.

Speaking to the National Secretary Tarbiyyat, responsible for moral training of the Khuddam, Huzoor outlined that they must inculcate the importance of basic Islamic practices within the youth, such as the offering of the five daily prayers. Huzoor Anwar stated,

"Let the youth understand the importance of prayer. The five-time daily prayer – Salat – is obligatory for each and every Muslim. Make them realise the importance of it by providing them verses from the Holy Quran, the Ahadith and the passages of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) and of course the directions given to the Khuddam by the Caliphs of the Jama'at. Each and every youth himself should realise the importance of prayer... In this regard, Amila members should set an example for others to follow. Until and unless you set your example, people will not follow your instructions."

During the meeting, Hazrat Amirul Momineen gave extensive guidelines on the correct upbringing of older children from amongst the Atfal. Speaking to the National Atfal Secretary, Huzoor explained the importance of ensuring the moral and spiritual development of Ahmadi Muslim children and outlined his expectations in this regard saying,

"When boys reach the age of 14 or 15, they normally develop different preferences and often become lazy with regards to the religious activities of the Jama'at. So, this is a very crucial time and age for the Atfal where you should strive to keep them closer to you. Always try to attach them to their religion and involve them in the activities of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community as much as you can."

Later in response to another question, Huzoor Anwar again emphasised the importance of moral training of the youth at 14 and 15 years of age. Huzoor Aqdas explained,

"Try to make programmes which are of interest to the older Atfal and the Khuddam. Ask them what type of activities they think will be beneficial for them and do not only just follow the traditional programmes and plans... Try to find out from them, what do they suggest? As long as their suggestions are within the four walls of the traditions of the Jama'at and the teachings of Islam then you can make your plans accordingly. In this way you, you can increase the number of Atfal and Khuddam taking part in your activities."

His Holiness also outlined the importance of sports and physical activities for the youth of all ages. Hazrat Amirul Momineen stated,

"Make it a point that Khuddam should play some outdoor games and not just waste their time wandering the streets or just playing indoor games on the TV or online. They should play outside physical games, be it football, rugby, cricket, badminton, table tennis or other games. It should not be that they just waste their time on TV and video games."

'The Existence Project' A Special Feature of the Review of Religions

AHAD BHUNNO

"We cannot convert anyone. It is not for us to believe that we will change people's faith. Rather, Allah said it is His work to change the hearts of people"

The Review of Religions has recently launched 'The Existence Project' with the aim of providing conclusive proofs of the existence of God.

This is based on the vision of Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih V, (may Allah be his Helper), for The Review of Religions to fulfil the purpose for which the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) started this magazine – to prove the existence of God. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), Huzoor further explained, had observed that generally at that time, the world was veering either towards Atheism or towards Christianity.

Today, more people are turning towards Atheism and this is where the real battle lies in winning the hearts of people.

Huzoor also explained that a lack of belief in God lies at the root of many problems facing society. We sometimes focus on societal issues first, but if we can bring people towards belief in God, it will resolve many of the problems which appear unsurmountable.

Hence, a special regular section of The Review of Religions will be dedicated to exploring all matters related to the existence of God, from personal testimonies to rational arguments. In this connection, its Chief Editor conducted an interview which has been reproduced in the magazine.

In this interview, Huzoor dealt briefly with such questions that are often posed, such as, Why, if there is a God, does He allow suffering, and why do believers suffer just as much as non-believers; are religions necessary when we see, especially during



this pandemic, that some people have become more "spiritual" but do not want to subscribe to any religion; and how does a prophet or a khalifa know that they have received a communication from God instead of just an idea or a thought that they have had.

On the subject of suffering, Huzoor advised that it was unwise to start a discussion with someone who had experienced suffering by telling them that it was the result of their not fulfilling the rights of Allah while it is possible that they had in fact fulfilled the rights of Allah.

It is better to bring them towards belief in God first and speak to them about God's mercy and compassion.

Regarding spirituality, Huzoor further advised, while this is something which is good, it is also important to bear in mind that God has established His own laws of spirituality and for this spiritual revolution, He has sent Prophets. The morals that we have today were brought by these Prophets. Therefore, religion is needed and is essential.

Quoting the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), Huzoor stressed that Prophets are the ones who demonstrate the existence of God to people through signs and miracles. Without them, no one would have been able to achieve complete certainty in God's existence.

The full interview can be read [here](#):
Click [here](#) to visit The Existence Project page

Promised Messiah Day UK

A virtual online Promised Messiah Day was organised by the UK Jama'at on Saturday 20th March 2021. Proceedings were chaired by the Amir UK Mr Rafiq Ahmed Hayat and streamed live on YouTube.

After Tilawat-e-Qur'an and Nazm, Amir Sahib introduced the first speaker of the day, Maulana Tahir Selby, Missionary Hartlepool. Speaking on the need of the Imam, Selby Sahib mentioned the Hadith of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) in which he is reported to have said that while the children of Israel were divided into 72 sects, Islam would be divided into 73, and that all of them would be destined for the fire of Hell except for one. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) clarified that the one sect which will be saved will be those who follow his Sunnah and that of his Companions. This is the time in which we see that Muslims are so disunited. No Sunni Muslim today would accept a Shia leader, nor would a Shia Muslim accept a Sunni Imam (*as Khalifa*).

The only way out of this dilemma is for the Imam to be appointed by Allah Himself. In this case all Muslims would have to accept him. The argument some people give is that if we have the Holy Qur'an, Hadith and the Sunnah to guide us, we don't need anyone else. But looking at the present state of the Muslims, it is clear that something is lacking by way of guidance. Muslims are killing one another and calling each other Kafirs. One example of their



Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad^(as)
The Promised Messiah

lack of understanding of the teachings of Islam is the belief that the punishment for apostasy is death, but this is not mentioned in the Holy Qur'an. On the contrary, Allah says clearly that if a person believes, then disbelieves, and thereafter believes and disbelieves for a second time, Allah will not forgive him. So, if the punishment for apostasy was death, then there would be no question of that person believing and disbelieving for a second time. Selby Sahib gave further examples about the teachings of the Holy Qur'an that have been misinterpreted, e.g. the punishment for adultery, blasphemy, hence the need for the need for a divinely appointed Imam.

Selby Sahib continued by saying that the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, has given many indications about the appearance of the Mahdi and the Promised Messiah, and has urged Muslims that when he arrives they should go to whatever lengths necessary to reach him in order to pledge allegiance to him. Allah has sent Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad as the Promised Messiah and the Mahdi so that Muslims should be rightly guided and to follow the teachings of Islam properly. His mission was also to unite mankind under the banner of Islam. It was Allah's design that this should happen in the latter days in the time of the Promised

Messiah. Every religion teaches the concept of a second coming, and it is not possible that there will be several of these religious teachers appearing at the same time with conflicting dogmas. Instead of creating unity, this situation will exacerbate the division among mankind and lead to further tensions. The only solution is for only one teacher to be sent, who will represent all the earlier prophets, and thus unite mankind. The person who fulfils this role is the Promised Messiah, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian, and only by accepting him will mankind be united. The Promised Messiah categorically makes this declaration in his book *“The need for the Imam”*.

The next speaker was a Waqfe Nau child, Khalid-ud-Din, who spoke on the early life of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). He drew attention to the fact that the early life of a prophet, before he makes his claim to prophethood, is very important, as is mentioned in the Holy Qur'an. This was true for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and was also true for the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

He stated that this proof is provided by Allah to establish the truth of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). Mr Khalid also mentioned the fulfilment of the prophecy contained in the Holy Qur'an in Surah Jumu'ah, in which the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) describes the person who would revive the religion as being of Persian descent. This was true of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). His only teachers were private tutors and did not have any regular schooling. His contemporaries described him as being pious, not interested in worldly matters, or games and sports as other children. He was never mischievous or dishonest, nor used foul language. He would distribute his food to the poor, often without the knowledge of his family. Mr Khalid-ud-Din concluded by saying that the early life of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) is an example of a blessed youth, from his honesty and integrity to his compassion and selflessness, his relationship with Allah, and love of the Holy Qur'an, and the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

Maulana Abdul Majid Tahir, Addl. Wakil-ut-Tabshir, then addressed the meeting on “The Promised Messiah’s Love for the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him”. This was in Urdu. He said that the life of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) is filled with the love of the Holy Prophet (peace

“He it is Who has raised among the unlettered people a Messenger from among themselves who recites unto them His Signs, and purifies them, and teaches them the Book and Wisdom though before that they were in manifest error; And He will raise him among others of them who have not yet joined them. He is the Mighty, the Wise.”

— SURAH AL-JUMUAH 62:3-4

and blessings of Allah be on him) and, as such, is without comparison. His poems in Urdu, Persian, and Arabic demonstrate his love for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). One cannot find such love and admiration for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) anywhere else. For instance, the Promised Messiah writes,

“That leader who is ours, whose name is Muhammad, is my love; I am sacrificed upon that light. Who am I? He is everything. And this is the decree of God Almighty”.

He also says,

“After the love of God the Almighty, I am intoxicated with the love of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. If, according to anyone, this is disbelief and heresy, then I call God to witness that I am the greatest heretic.”

Maulana Abdul Majid Tahir continued saying that this display of love for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) is also evident in the Arabic poems of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad (Allah be pleased with him) declared on oath that God Almighty is his witness, that whenever the name of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) was mentioned, his eyes would well up every time. In

one incident, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) was invited to a meeting organised by the Arya Samaj, who promised that they would not abuse the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) in that gathering. Under that condition, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) agreed and wrote a speech for Hazrat Maulvi Nooruddin (Allah be pleased with him) and some others to address the gathering. However, despite their promise, the Arya Samaj poured abuse on the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). When the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) heard about this later on, he became very annoyed with those companions and asked them,

“How was your dignity able to tolerate this? You tolerated the fact that your Master (i.e. the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him) was being abused and yet you remained sitting silently there?”

Maulana Abdul Majid Tahir went on to state that the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) had further declared that for the whole of mankind there was no other arbitrator except the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). Therefore it was imperative that we should truly and firmly follow this Prophet of Almighty God and do not give anyone else preference over him. May Allah enable us to do so.

A short video on Qadian was presented which narrated the incidents leading to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) making his announcement that he was appointed by God and inviting followers to take the pledge of allegiance at his hands. This began with his book Braheen-e-Ahmadiyya. Though there were many who were keen to do Bai'at at his hands at that time, he refused until commanded by Allah the Almighty. Following this, he published the Ten Conditions of Bai'at which he expected his followers to adhere wholeheartedly. Finally, on 23 March 1889, he travelled to Ludhiana, and in the house of Hazrat Sufi Ahmad Jan he invited his sincere followers to take the Bai'at and thus the foundation of the new Jama'at was laid.

This video was followed by an update on the Baitul Futuh Project from Secretary Jaidad UK Mr Irfan Qureshi. He announced that while the major construction works have been completed and the main contractor has left the site handing over the building to the Jama'at, the internal refurbishment and installation continues. He presented a series of photos showing aerial external views of the

buildings, and others to show how the internal work is progressing.

This short interlude to the proceedings ended with an MTA news bulletin on the recent corona virus vaccination which took place in the Tahir Hall was shown, where over 1,000 people were vaccinated.

(A full report of this has already been updated on the Ahmadiyya Bulletin website).



The concluding speech of the programme was delivered by Mr Rafiq Ahmed Hayat, Amir UK, who related the prophecies contained in the Holy Qur'an and Hadith which referred to the coming of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

He explained that Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, before his announcement that he was the Promised Messiah, was widely acclaimed by many Muslim scholars of the time that he was the Champion of Islam because of his writings. However some of these scholars turned against him when he made this announcement and started to persecute him. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) declared that God wants to bring all righteous souls towards the Tawheed, the Unity of God, and that he had been sent for this very reason. Further, he said that he had been granted this status because of his love for the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). He declared that there is no other prophet or intercessor for humanity except the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and this is our belief.

Amir Sahib went on to say that our forefathers underwent many sacrifices when they accepted Ahmadiyyat, and often were boycotted by their own families. He recounted the experiences of his own grandfather when he accepted Ahmadiyyat, while his grandmother was staunchly against it. He wanted to attend one Jalsa Salana in Qadian but did not want to let her know where he was going as he knew she would try to stop him. So, he went without telling her, but she soon found out and followed him to Qadian with the intention of bringing him back home. After the Jalsa, he stayed on in Qadian for a few days and returned home expecting his wife to be very cross with him. Instead, he found her waiting for him smilingly. She then explained that she had followed him to Qadian, but on arrival there, because of the Purdah arrangements, she found herself on



the ladies' side of the Jalsa gah with no chance of meeting him, so she decided to stay on and listened to the speeches. She said that she then realised that what she was listening to was nothing more than the pure teachings of Islam and this affected her so much that she accepted Ahmadiyyat before leaving Qadian.

Amir Sahib said that even to this day, we can see that our families in Pakistan are making huge sacrifices because of their faith. We hear on a regular basis of Ahmadis being persecuted, subject to target killing, imprisoned just because of their faith, denied education or work due to their religion. Some other Muslim countries have also started this persecution. We must therefore ensure that these sacrifices do not go to waste. We must endeavour to attain the highest standard that is expected of us. Here in the West, we have the freedom to practice our faith freely, and must not therefore forget the purpose of our creation, which is to attain a relationship with our Creator.

Amir Sahib cautioned that although the majority of Ahmadis are aware of their obligations, there is a minority who seem to have been caught up in the bright lights of the materialistic world. This is not the way to attain the true inner peace we all crave for. No matter how much wealth you accumulate, you will not have peace of mind until you have communion with Allah the Almighty. Our focus should be on winning the pleasure of Allah.

Amir Sahib went on to describe the true character of an Ahmadi. He said as such we must first follow

the Word of Allah, the words of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) the words of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him), abide by the conditions of Bai'at and the words of the Khulafa. It is important to have a close connection with Allah the Almighty through prayer. Successful indeed are the believers who are humble in their prayers and who keep aloof from what is vain. Every Ahmadi should do a self-analysis every day, every week, every month, and every year. Each day we should tread on the path of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) and try to fulfil our pledge of Bai'at to the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). And we should avoid all sins and vices. Continual self-assessment is needed to ensure we maintain the high standard that is required of us.

Amir Sahib stated that the month of fasting is fast approaching and will be upon us in a few weeks. This will give us further opportunity to supplicate to Allah the Almighty to improve our character and conduct and make sure our relationship with other people is up to the level that is expected of us. Allah has already blessed us with huge number of victories and Ahmadiyyat will continue to grow but it is up to us whether we will be part of that victory or will we be left behind. We have been blessed with the institution of Khilafat, which the rest of the Muslim Ummah have been deprived of. So, we must pray for Huzoor and his family so that we may continue to receive Allah's blessings from this institution.

The meeting ended with a silent led by Amir Sahib.

National Musleh Maud Day 2021

REPORT BY DR ABID AHMAD

The first ever virtual National Musleh Maud Day took place live on YouTube at 3pm on Saturday 20th February 2021. The event was chaired by the National Amir UK, Mr Rafiq Hayat.

The meeting began with Tilawat-e-Qur'an and translation by Maulana Humayun Uppal, Regional Missionary Islamabad. A Nazm was performed by Mr Mubarak Ahmad. Messrs Moeed Hamid and Ibrahim Ikhlaq then read out the Musleh Maud Prophecy in Urdu and English:

I confer upon thee a Sign of My mercy according to your supplication. I have heard thy entreaties and have honoured thy prayers with my acceptance through My mercy and have blessed this thy journey. A Sign of power, mercy, nearness to Me is bestowed upon thee, a Sign of grace and beneficence is awarded to thee and thou art granted the key of success and victory.....He will be accompanied by grace, which shall arrive with him. He will be characterized with grandeur, greatness and wealth. He will come into the world and will heal many of their disorders through his messianic qualities and through the blessings of the Holy Spirit. He is the Word of Allah for Allah's mercy and honour has equipped him with the Word of Majesty. He will be extremely intelligent and understanding and will be meek of heart and will be filled with secular and spiritual knowledge.

Behold a light cometh, a light anointed by God with the perfume of His pleasure. We shall pour Our spirit into Him and he will be sheltered under the shadow of God. He will grow rapidly in stature and will be the means of procuring the release of those held in bondage. His fame will spread to the ends of the earth and people will be blessed through him. He will then be raised to his spiritual station in heaven. This is a matter decreed. (Extract of the Announcement 20th February 1886).



Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad,
Khalifatul Masih II^(ra) (1889-1965)

Maulana Ataul Mujeeb Rashed gave a speech about the background and significance of the prophecy. Exactly 135 years ago the Promised Messiah received the revelation in 1886. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) went to Hoshiarpur and started a 40-day seclusion where he prayed constantly. As a result of this, he was given this glad tiding, that Allah Almighty had decided that the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) would be given a son within a period of 9 years (even though the Promised Messiah had not prayed for a son). This son would be given many special qualities and attributes.

The Promised Messiah's first-born child was actually a daughter who died in 1891, A son was then born in 1887 who died in 1888. Opponents of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) began to raise objections against him saying his first born was a girl and then that his son has died, therefore this prophecy of a special son would not be fulfilled. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) remained steadfast and had strong conviction that this prophecy would be fulfilled. Indeed it was, when another son was born on 12th January 1889 named Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad.

How could a man predict that a son would be born with special qualities? This Promised son was a testament of the truth of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him). We should use this prophecy to help spread the truth of the message of Ahmadiyyat to the whole world.

Mr Adeel Tahir, a young Waqfe Nau Tifl, then gave a short address about the guidance provided to the youth by Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him). Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him) used to pray in Masjid Aqsa, Qadian and it was witnessed by others that he would be sobbing in his prayers, even at a very young age. The Promised Son was only 19 years old when his father passed away.

At that time, Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him) stated that he would convey the message of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) to the four corners of the earth, even if he had to do this single-handedly.

Once he was playing a game of football. At half time, the scores were level. The Talimul Islam team which included Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him), scored. The scorer fell to the ground in prostration. This showed the devotion to prayers of Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him) and his companions, in all matters.

A short video clip was then played of an audio from a speech by Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him), in which he stated, God has chosen you (Ahmadis) to spread the message of Islam once again.

Maulana Rana Mashood Ahmed presented a proof of existence the of Allah and the truth of Islam through the prophecy of Hazrat Musleh Maud. Hazrat Musleh Maud's birth and existence is nothing short of a miracle. It is a true fulfilment of the prophecy. One of the proofs conveyed was through the servant who was employed to look after Hazar Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him).

This woman would be so severely ill that at times she had 7-9 children who passed away due to ulcers and tuberculosis. Some passed away at a young age while others passed away at an older age. She started to breastfeed this child without seeking permission from the child's parents.

As a result ulcers, tuberculosis and scrofula bacteria were transmitted to the child. Thus, when the child

turned 2 years of age, he developed a cough and ended up contracting scrofula and remained ill for many years. But because Allah Almighty was to manifest a grandeur sign through him, God Almighty saved him.

A Nazm was performed by Mr Hafeez Ahmad. A short video then shown which updated the audience on the current Baitul Futuh redevelopment.

Amir Sahib gave some concluding remarks. These events, such as today's Musleh Maud Day, he said, are part of the training for young children and before COVID, many children would attend our events in person at Mosques. I hope many children are listening today with their parents at home.



Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him) was elected 2nd Khalifa at the tender age of 25. This was a difficult time for the Jama'at and some thought he would not be able to lead the Jama'at. But he was not an ordinary person. He was a special person with unique qualities. Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him) laid out 5 important points for a true success in life:

1. Seek forgiveness for one's sins
2. Always pay attention to worship
3. Always be thankful to Allah
4. Enjoin good
5. Be mindful of the bounties established by Allah Almighty

Hazrat Musleh Maud (Allah be pleased with him), by establishing the auxiliary organisations in the Jama'at, enabled every single person to contribute to the Jama'at in some way. The auxiliaries provide discipline and training for people. For example, a young Qaid looking after many Khuddam will be a better manager at work when looking after his team members.

The meeting concluded with a silent prayer at 5.15pm. The audience peaked at 3,200 connections via YouTube, with an estimated 10,000 people watching.

Baitul Futuh Mosque Complex Redevelopment Progress



By the Grace of Allah work on the redevelopment of the Baitul Futuh Complex is continuing at pace. The UK is blessed with being able to consult with Huzoor Aqdas at every stage of the project and benefit from his invaluable guidance throughout.

At present most of the shell and core works have been completed and screens have been installed. Work on the West Wing is continuing and should be completed by the end of March. The West Wing is the part nearest the main road.

Mechanical installations have started and air conditioning and ventilation works are ongoing. Partitioning works continue to take place on the first floor and Jama'at teams are working on finalising the design of the audio video, CCTV, Paxton access control, loxone automatic control, MTA coordination etc.



In addition to this consideration is being given to external landscaping and gatehouse ground works. Prices are being obtained and a contractor will be appointed in due course to undertake this task.

A lot has been achieved and the impressive outer shell of the new construction is clear to observe for passers by. Members are requested to pray that Allah continues to bless us in this project and we are able to bring it to a successful conclusion.



Covid-19 Vaccination at Baitul Futuh



ADAPTED FROM A REPORT BY REGIONAL AMIR NASIM JAMAL

A Covid-19 Vaccination Day was organised by the Jama'at for the benefit of local members in the London Borough of Merton on Friday 26th February 2021.

Despite the very short notice in which this was organised, by the grace and mercy of Allah, the day proved to be a success with over one thousand members successfully vaccinated and with the possibility of further similar events to be organised, both at Baitul Futuh and elsewhere.

Prior to the event, a request for prayers was made to Huzoor Aqdas by Dr Maqbool Sani while Mr Naseer Dean, UK Naib Amir, asked everyone to pray for the success of the event and to offer sadqa.

Also, because of the strict eligibility criteria of who may be vaccinated, there was concern that too many non-eligible members may register and subsequently have to be turned away.

Khuddam from the surrounding regions were on hand to prepare the Tahir Hall the day before, in readiness for the day as well as helping out with parking, crowd management, and catering. The day started early at 8 am with 12 NHS staff members arriving with the vaccines. They were welcomed by Dr Sani and were served with breakfast. Mr Nisar Orchard, UK Tarbiyat Secretary, started the session with a collective silent prayer.

The vaccination process continued throughout the day and finished at 7.30 pm, with short breaks for lunch and Friday Prayers.

By the end of the day, 1,013 members received the vaccination, Alhamdulillah. The breakdown of the figures is as follows:

Category	Ansar	Khadim	Lajna	Total
Local Jama'at	167	74	203	444
Front Line Workers	181	365	23	569
Total	348	439	226	1013





Five local Presidents were present with a number of additional volunteers in the Tahir Hall to help Dr Maqbool Sani with the administration and other tasks. Khuddam volunteers were provided by three regions, namely Baitul Futuh, Baitul Ehsan and Sharif Regions.

A media team from NHS Merton accompanied the medical staff to record the day's event and conducted interviews with various members.

UK Amir Mr Rafiq Ahmed Hayat expressed his gratitude to all the volunteers and NHS staff. At the end of the day he presented the NHS staff with gifts and fruit baskets.

Dr Sani is in early discussion with the NHS to arrange another session and cover other London areas as well as to expand the eligibility criteria so that more members can be vaccinated.

The NHS staff were very impressed with the organisation and the hospitality. Mr Mahmood Rafiq from UK Umoore Kharija coordinated the NHS media team and their reactions afterwards. A team from BOL Network, a media conglomerate based in Karachi, and a Pakistani TV station also attended and conducted interviews with Dr Sani and some members who received the vaccination. A tweet from the Ahmadiyya UK Twitter account gained good traction.

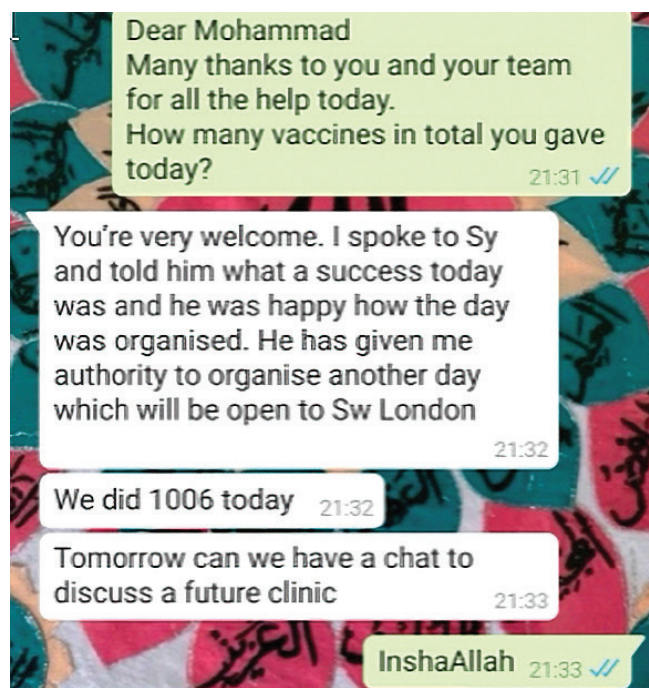
Elizabeth Thompson from NHS Merton Media team said:

"This was an amazing effort, particularly knowing how quickly you pulled it together and the

organization was great. We were very thankful for the volunteers who supported in the background from your community."

Clair Coutts NHS Social Media team said:

"This is my first time in a Mosque and I was amazed how well organized you were as well as the hospitality that was offered. It was a nice surprise to get the gift as well. "



Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Honours Covid-19 Heroes

26 February 2021 @ 7PM



The **Big** Mercy for Mankind ⁴ Thank You Awards

LOVE FOR ALL ♥ HATRED FOR NONE

The UK Jama'at held The BIG Mercy for Mankind Thank You awards event on Friday, 26th February 2021, which was broadcast live online on YouTube. The evening began with a short video about the efforts and activities of the Jama'at in the name of humanity, peace and justice worldwide.

This was followed by a brief history of the Jama'at in the UK and a summary of the local community efforts during the pandemic by the President of the Guildford branch, Khalid Ahmad Bhatti. He said these efforts included preparing and distributing hot meals to frontline workers, delivering PPE on behalf of the government and delivering food and medicines to vulnerable groups.

The winner of the Individual Award was Jenny Cole along with her husband Bill. Jenny, supported by Bill, bought 9km of elastic and made 2,800 masks by hand to donate to vulnerable local residents, and raised £3,000 which was donated to Ash Football Club.

Jenny will be donating the £100 prize to Christopher's Children's Hospice in Guildford. She said,

"If I could save just one life, just one, through a mask, then it really is all worthwhile."

Her award was presented by the Town Mayor of Godalming, Penny Rivers. She said,

"There have been many acts of kindness, small and big, and it is right to acknowledge these acts of dedication and service to others. We are in this together and we will get through this together, that is our hope."

The Group Award went to Ash, Ash Vale and Ash Green Coronavirus Support Group. It is a Facebook group with 1,600 members, set up and run by volunteers to collect and deliver shopping and prescriptions and providing telephone support for those in need during the pandemic and is having a truly positive impact on its local community.

The leader of Guildford Borough, Council, Joss Bigmore, presented the award to Carla Morson on behalf of the support group. Carla announced that the award would be on display in St Mary's Church in Ash Vale, and the prize money would be donated



to the food parcel project run in partnership with St Mary’s Church which feeds more than 30 families a week.

Cllr Bigmore added,

“I am honoured to be able to support these awards and, on behalf of Guildford Borough Council. I thank the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association for everything they have done, and for recognising the fantastic work that we have seen in our borough in the last 12 months by organising this event.

We have seen so many examples of people embracing their communities and selflessly giving their time to help one another and those qualities accurately describe the winner of our organisation award.”

The event neared its conclusion with a short talk delivered by the Secretary Tabligh UK, Mr Ibrahim Ikhlaq. He spoke about how Islam teaches that true happiness and peace of mind is not just achieved through fulfilling the rights of God, but also by fulfilling the rights of God’s creation. Mr Ikhlaq concluded,

“The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the UK is at the forefront of helping anyone that needs our help, as we consider bringing relief to others by alleviating physical and mental suffering of mankind as our mission, moreover an integral part of our faith.”

Finally, a closing vote of thanks was given by Cllr Joss Bigmore. She said,

“One of the qualities that has shone through in our two award winners, and in so many of the nominees, has been their humility and surprise at being honoured, they see it as just doing their bit for their community, but it really is far more than that. They are starting organisations and movements from nothing, and in doing so saving lives and having a lasting effect on their towns and villages.”

The evening concluded with a silent prayer led by Mr Ibrahim Ikhlaq, a special request of prayers was also mentioned for the Mayor of Guildford, Richard Billington, who was unfortunately unable to join the event due to ill health.

We owe a great deal to the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, for his having grafted in our hearts an unbounded Love for the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

**HAZRAT KHALIFATUL
MASIH III^(RH)**

Religious Founders Day Midlands



The Midlands Region held a Virtual Religious Founders day function on 28th February 2021.

Naib Amir UK, Mr Mansoor Ahmad Shah, chaired the function and Maulana Ataul Mujeeb Rashed, Naib Amir UK and Imam of the London Mosque, gave the keynote address.

Guest speakers representing six major religions were invited to speak on their respected faiths and beliefs and within the theme of unity and peace through religion. The religions included were Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism, Bhuddism, Sikhism and Islam.

The function commenced with Tilawat-e-Qur'an performed by Maulana Humaiyon Jahangir Khan followed with a translation by Syed Aamir Sikander President Burton Jamaat

A welcome address and introduction to all the guest speakers was given by Syed Imtiaz Ahmed, Regional Amir Midlands.

This was followed by a short video introducing the

Jama'at and detailing some of its achievements.

Each of the speakers were then called to give an address on their respective religions outlining their beliefs and particular reconciling the theme of the celebratory function.

The guest speakers included Mrs Parveen Brigue, Vice President of Wolverhampton Inter-faith representing Hinduism, Rev James Treasure the vicar of St Thomas and St Luke's Church, representing Christianity and Ms Eve Sacker, Interfaith member of the Nottingham Liberal Synagogue. She was Representing the Jewish faith.

Two other speakers included Mr Kuldeep Singh Ubhi, President of Namdhari Sikh Community UK and Ms Pet Finden, a Buddhist Chaplin who teaches Buddhism at Nagarjuna Kadampa Meditation centre Thornby.

Imam Sahib then followed these speakers delivering the keynote address with an inspiring and eloquent exposition of Islam.

Hartlepool Jama'at Feed the homeless

During the pandemic, Hartlepool Jama'at distributed cooked food to homeless people. Some Jama'at members established contact with St. Aidan's Church in Hartlepool, who run a food bank for the homeless and needy.

Hot meals were cooked at the Nasir Mosque in Hartlepool by Ansar and Khuddam, and then delivered to the foodbank. So far approximately 2,000 meals have been distributed to the needy.

Separate to this, Hartlepool Jama'at have also donated hot meals to NHS staff at North Tees Hospital.



Leeds Lajna & Men Donate to local charities

Lajna from Lajna Imaillah Leeds took part in the "Cheap and easy" cooking campaign which was launched last year-by the UK Jama'at. In March 2021 the women prepared and donated 25 meals to a homeless charity in Leeds.

Ansar and Khuddam from Leeds Jama'at, (not being wished to by outdone by the Lajna!) also decided to make a donation to the Humanity First Food Bank for the Homeless, which is in Mirfield, West Yorkshire. A large variety of tinned food, cereals, dried food, pasta and baby items were purchased and donated.



PAAMA New Ahmadis Welcome Evening

ADAPTED FROM A REPORT BY THIERRY ATA UL HAQ KPONOU, SEC PAAMA NEW AHMADIS



In Surah Al Hujurat (Ch.49) verse 11 of the Holy Qur’an, God Almighty says:

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

In his commentary Hazrat Khalifatul Masih II (Allah be pleased with him) states,

“Islam’s real strength lies in this ideal of brotherhood which transcends all barriers of caste, colour or clime.”

Accepting Islam Ahmadiyyat is a life changing decision which becomes a life-time commitment. This beautiful experience can present periods of trials. They make one’s faith stronger. In this context on 27th February 2021 at 6:30pm, the Pan African Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (PAAMA) held a virtual event to welcome members who had joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. The online programme was broadcasted on Zoom.

A committee was formed in December 2020 including PAAMA new Ahmadis Department (men and women), PAAMA Tabligh Department and PAAMA Ishaat Department. Different tasks such as Attendance, Promotion and Programme were discussed. Mr Thierry Kponou, was appointed chairman of the committee.

The programme began with the recitation from the Holy Qur’an by Mr Khaleeq Kusi and English translation by Mr Ousmane Bakayoko. The event had an audience of 86 participants and included the following,

- Welcome and Introduction of the Evening by Mr Abdul Wahab Asamoah Sec. New Ahmadis of PAAMA West Region
- Brotherhood by Mr Thierry Ata ul Haq Kponou, Sec. PAAMA New Ahmadis
- Journey to Ahmadiyya by Maulana Imam Ibrahim Michael Noonan, Missionary in charge Ireland
- Open discussion on Journey to Ahmadiyya: New Ahmadis sharing their acceptance.
- Q/A session presented by Mr Fadlullah Afolabi Sec. New Ahmadis PAAMA London Region, with Maulana Abdul Ghany Jahangeer, in charge of the French Desk and Maulana Ibrahim Michael Noonan.
- Closing Remarks/Vote of Thanks by Mr Jameel Mwanje, Additional President PAAMA UK

During the question and answer session various topics were covered. This included reasons why a new Ahmadi is considered as such for just the first 3 years following acceptance and whether chanda for PAAMA is compulsory.

It was also at this stage that Maulana Ibrahim Noonan, while answering questions, was able to relate what single factor enabled him to realise the truth of the Jama'at.

He was probed as to what advice he could potentially give to those who are born Ahmadi regarding their spirituality to which he answered interestingly. Other questions like the Prophethood or otherwise of Daniel were also discussed.

The event lasted for around two hours and was brought to a close with a silent prayer led by Maulana Abdul Ghany Jahangeer.



PAN-AFRICAN AHMADIYYA MUSLIM ASSOCIATION UK

A VIRTUAL WELCOME EVENT FOR NEW AHMADIS

Hosted by
New Ahmadis Department, PAAMA UK

**AN OPEN DISCUSSION ON
JOURNEY TO AHMADIYYAT
FOLLOWED BY Q&A WITH
MAULANA JAHANGEER KHAN SAHIB &
IMAM IBRAHIM NOONAN SAHIB**

www.paama.org.uk

@PAAMAUK @PAAMA_UK @PAAMA_UK

Newcastle Lajna Attend Interfaith events Promoting Integration

Several ladies from Newcastle Lajna Imaillah attended a virtual interfaith event. This was organised by the Newcastle Council of Faith.

The invitation was made by Mrs Lesley Hillary, Inter-Faith & Ethnic Relations Adviser, Diocese of Newcastle.

The host for the event was by the Jewish Rabi, Mr Aaron Lipsey. Various presentations were delivered by speakers from different religious backgrounds. The purpose of the event was to promote understanding and tolerance between the different faiths.

The Newcastle Lajna also attended a virtual tour of the Newcastle Hindu Temple. During the tour, the Hindu priest, showed people around the temple and also explained various idols and their significance in the Hindu religion. This helped people understand some principles of Hinduism.

Finally, Miss Shafia Saeed Tabligh secretary for Newcastle Lajna, was invited to a Christian Muslim Conference by Mrs Mary McLoughlin. This conference was held by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of



Scotland and the Ahl Al-Bait Scotland Society to mark the signing of the document on Human Fraternity by Pope Francis and Mr Sheikh Al Azhar.

This virtual interfaith event was to bridge differences between the two faiths and develop new friendships.



Historical QUESTION & ANSWER Session

QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION
29 JUNE 1985, FAZL MOSQUE, LONDON

Status of the Judaic Law – is it applicable in today’s world?

Questioner: Could Judaism be sufficient for mankind now if it is practised in its entirety and in its original purity?

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih IV: First of all, do we have the original pure form of Judaism and what is the guarantee that we do? The answer is that we don’t know! So the question doesn’t hold. [We do not have the authentic Judaic teaching] in its original form because it has been interpolated so often, and so repeatedly in different ages, by man, that we don’t know which is right and which is wrong.

The only Book which has authenticity is the Book about which even its enemies admit this fact at least, that it is the same Word as was declared to be the Word of Allah in its original form - that is the Holy Qur’an. But there is no such guarantee regarding the original teachings of Judaism.

Secondly, the original teachings of Judaism

might have been meant just for that age – this is a possibility. Unless we investigate this matter further, we cannot agree to this suggestion at all. As we begin to investigate, at the very first step we find that this teaching falls much short of the requirement of modern age. For example, one of its teachings is “An Eye for an Eye, and a Tooth for a Tooth”; that is, you are not permitted to forgive. This is the general implication, and this is how that even today the Jews are so revengeful, they do not know how to forgive. This teaching is not appropriate for the world today.

No sane man with a balance personality can accept this as a teaching for the modern ages. For an oppressed people maybe, those people who have been downtrodden for centuries and they have become extremely cowardly and do not want to take revenge because they are afraid and they have no manly qualities left in them.

Therefore, to turn such a people into a manly people



again, you may require a teaching like this for a time where they are not permitted to forgive. But only for a while, of course. So, for that particular period in time, this was the correct teaching, but not for all time to come.

Now if you compare the teaching of the Bible as it is found today - which is supposed to be the original teaching of the Bible and which is agreed upon as such by the biblical scholars - and compare these teachings with the teachings of the Holy Qur'an, then immediately you will understand that they have been left far behind in time. The same applies to Christianity, but not to Islamic teaching in this regard. Because as you will understand, Islam says that there is no harm in taking revenge - you have the right to do so, but it is better to forgive. But only under one condition: You are permitted to forgive, and of course this is promoted, but under the condition that forgiveness becomes a source of reformation, and not a source of encouragement to crime. Thus Islamic teachings contain the best part of Christianity and Judaism.

Islam says it's ok to take your revenge, it is not forbidden; you are within your rights but under the condition that you must not take excesses while taking your revenge. Do not go a jot beyond the point to that degree at which you were wronged. That is the condition.

The second condition is that whoever forgives with this condition which leads to reformation in the criminal, then he will be rewarded by Allah. Now this is a modified teaching which is timeless.

You can challenge any person in the world to improve upon this teaching and to bring it up to date. They cannot do it. It is up to date all the time. This teaching is for all time. This is why it is called a timeless teaching. Christians of the earlier eras rejected the Islamic teachings and said that their own teachings in this regard was better.

The time has come when they themselves have been forced to accept Islamic teachings. Not in so many words, but in practice. For instance, they ultimately had to accept divorce. Then they had to reject alcoholism - the bad aspects of drinking alcohol - although they can't get rid of it altogether; that is their helplessness - they are making all efforts in this direction. They know the bad points and in some Christian countries, even here in England, during the Puritan age, laws were passed to prohibit alcohol drinking.

In America too there was a dry age when certain States went dry and people who wanted to drink had to go out to other States where drinking was not prohibited, and this also led to smuggling (and other crimes). That shows that the Islamic teaching is the correct teaching for all times.

Taqwa - The Underlying Objective Of the Month of Ramadhan

Last year Hazrat Amirul Momineen delivered a sermon highlighting the underlying objective of the month of Ramadhan. This article is based primarily on that sermon.

When prescribing fasting during the month of Ramadhan the Holy Qur'an states:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى
الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

'O ye who believe! fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may become righteous. (2:184)

This clearly establishes that the underlying objective of fasting is to attain Taqwa. The question then arises as to what is Taqwa? Here the Promised Messiah ^(peace be upon him) has explained:

"Taqwa is that a person upholds and fulfils every trust of God and spiritual covenant made with Him, as well as the trusts and covenants made with His creation, to the best of one's abilities. In other words, he should uphold and fulfil even the minutest aspects of it to the best of his abilities."

(Barahin-e-Ahmadiyya, Part 5, Vol. 21, p. 210, Appendix)

This clearly is not an easy task. All the favours which Allah the Almighty has bestowed upon us make it incumbent for us to be grateful to Him. In reality, not only do we fail to fulfil this obligation of expressing our gratitude, but we do not even possess the ability to do this.

There are many who continue to benefit from the blessings of Allah the Almighty without expressing any gratitude, believing that it is their right. In fact, it is a great favour of Allah the Almighty that He continues to bless us despite our conditions and our ingratitude. We fail to honour the pledges we have made to God Almighty.

With respect to our obligations to Allah's creation, there are rights of parents, rights of neighbours, rights of travellers and other general rights within society that we do not fulfil. We have been commanded to fulfil them, but we do not do justice to them. Thus, if we were to analyse ourselves minutely, we are neither fulfilling the rights of Allah the Almighty, nor the rights of people.

Allah the Almighty says that Ramadhan is an opportunity that has been presented to you, and your attention has been drawn towards fasting, so that

you may make up and fulfil any of your shortcomings and weaknesses of the past 11 months. And this is to be done whilst turning your attention fully towards Allah the Almighty, abstaining from even the lawful things purely for His sake, tolerating hunger and thirst for His sake, paying greater attention towards His worship than ever before, and whilst paying particular attention towards fulfilling the rights of His creation.

When one fulfils these injunctions, this in essence is true taqwa and this is the very purpose of Ramadan and fasting. When a person observes the fast and passes through the month of Ramadan with this objective and for this purpose and does so with pure intentions then this will not bring about a temporary transformation, rather it will be a permanent change. Furthermore, one's attention will constantly be turned toward fulfilling the rights of Allah and towards fulfilling the rights of His worship.

Such an individual will not be overcome by worldly endeavours and vain pursuits and he will also pay attention towards fulfilling the rights of mankind. Such an individual will not usurp the rights of people for his personal interests. Thus, if we are not entering the month of fasting with this intention and objective, then this month of Ramadan will be of no benefit.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) stated on one occasion that the person who observes the fast for the sake of Allah and in order to seek His grace, Allah the Almighty places a gap of 70 seasons between his face and the hellfire.

(Sahih al-Bukhari, Kitab-ul-Jihad Wa Al-Siyar, Hadith no. 2840)

The difference between one season and the following season is an entire year, thus Allah the Almighty creates a distance of 70 years. Hence, these are the blessings of fasting and this is the taqwa that is developed within a person as a result.

The observation of fasts does not create taqwa for merely 30 days, rather a true fast leaves its impact for 70 years. Furthermore, if we look at it from this perspective, that if a Muslim, who has reached the age of maturity and upon whom fasting is obligatory, truly derives benefit from fasting and understands its true spirit and observes it accordingly, then they will continue to benefit for the rest of their lives from the blessings which Allah the Almighty has placed in

fasting. Moreover, such an individual will continue to search for the different avenues of attaining taqwa. In this manner, one will be protected from incurring the displeasure of Allah the Almighty and will instead continue to attain His pleasure.

If, in our society, people observe the fasts in this manner, then what a beautiful society that would be, wherein the rights of Allah the Almighty are fulfilled as well as those of His creation. This is the very ideal society, which every believer desires to establish. As a matter of fact, every human desires to establish and uphold such a society, as far as his own rights are concerned.

This means we should not merely look at our personal conveniences, interests and rights, rather we must protect and care for the rights of others as well. Thus during this pandemic we should continue to offer whatever support we can to our neighbours and the wider public.

The prevailing restrictions where we are very much confined to our homes should be utilised during this month to make our residences mosques where congregational prayers are held, study of the Holy Qur'an is engaged in and a positive spiritual atmosphere is cultivated.

On different occasions the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has explained taqwa from various perspectives. In one gathering, explaining the true meaning of taqwa and how it can be attained, he states:

"First and foremost, one should understand the true meaning of taqwa and how one can attain it. Taqwa means to desist from even the most nominal and smallest elements of immorality and impurity. This can be achieved by devising such robust and complete strategies and efforts through which you avoid crossing paths with sin altogether. However, it is insufficient to only make efforts. In fact, one also needs to fulfil the right of prayers and pray in a way that melts the heart.

"Whist sitting, standing, bowing and prostrating in prayer, in Tahajjud, in fact at all times, one should constantly pray for Allah the Almighty to deliver him from the depravity of sin and transgression. There is no greater blessing than gaining salvation from sin and becoming an innocent individual, where Allah the Almighty considers him as righteous and truthful."

However, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) says:

"this blessing is not attained through efforts alone, nor is it attained through solely prayers."

It is insufficient to only make efforts and it is also not enough to only pray.

"In fact, this is achieved through the combination of prayers and efforts."

Unless we take our efforts and prayers to their highest point, we will not be able to attain this. The Promised



Messiah (peace be upon him) says:

"One who only prays and fails to make efforts is guilty of sin and is putting God Almighty on trial. Similarly, one who makes efforts alone and abandons prayer acts with insolence is indifferent to God Almighty and believes that they can carry out righteous deeds through personal efforts and plans."

One cannot become pious through mere efforts alone. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then says:

"However, this is not the way of a true Muslim and believer; he, in fact, utilises both prayer and efforts. He makes full efforts and planning and recurses to the resources and means available to him. Then he leaves the matter to God the Almighty and prays to Him. Indeed, this is the teaching we have been given in the very first chapter of the Holy Quran, where God Almighty says:

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

"Thee Alone do we worship and Thee Alone do we implore for help.' One who does not use his faculties appropriately not only dishonours them but is also guilty of sin."

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, pp. 337-338)

Then, whilst further elaborating on this, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

“Man should fully avail the faculties granted to him by God Almighty and then entrust Him with the outcome. He should plead to God by saying, ‘I have made use of these faculties to the extent of which You have granted me.’ This is the meaning of *إِنَّا تَعْبُدُكَ* [Thee alone do we worship]. Then he says *وَإِنَّا تَسْتَغِيثُ* [Thee alone do we implore for help] and seeks help of God Almighty whilst saying ‘I seek Your support in the remaining stages.’”

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, pp. 338-339, footnote)

However, we should always bear in mind that God Almighty is aware of our inner state and of all our actions. Therefore, one should make maximum effort to the best of one’s abilities, as only then will one be able to seek the help of God Almighty. Hence, one must fully assess themselves in this matter and always consider whether or not they are acting with taqwa.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then points out:

“There is no doubt that at times, man derives benefit by means of his planning. However, to place full trust in one’s own plans is the height of foolishness and ignorance. Planning without prayer is futile and prayer without planning is of no benefit. It is necessary that one first closes the window through which sin can pass.”

In other words, one should get rid of the hole through which sin can enter and eliminate whatever factor may cause sin to be committed, be it disobedience or swaying away from religion. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states that one should first close this window and continue praying for the constant inner struggle. This is why it is stated:

وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِينَا لَنَهْدِيَنَّهُمْ سُبُلَنَا

[‘And as for those who strive in Our path – We will surely guide them in Our ways.’ (Al-Ankabut, 29:70)]

“How wonderfully has the guidance to act upon one’s planning been mentioned in this. Even in planning, one should not forsake God Almighty. On the other hand, it is stated:

أَدْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ

[‘Pray unto Me; I will answer (your prayer).’ (Al-Mu’min, 40:61)]

Therefore, if man truly desires to attain taqwa, he should plan and supplicate and fulfil the rights of both aspects. In such circumstances will God Almighty have mercy. However, if one were to act upon one and abandon the other, he would remain deprived.”

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, pp. 338-339)

Whilst further expounding upon this, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

“This is how one remains firmly established upon taqwa”, i.e. through planning and prayer “and Taqwa is the root of all deeds.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

“One remains firmly established in righteousness through this (i.e. planning and prayer) and the root of all deeds is taqwa. Whoever is void of this is a sinner. The beauty in one’s actions is brought about through taqwa”, that is the beauty of one’s deeds is created by means of righteousness; “by means of this can one attain nearness to God Almighty and through this does one become a friend of God. God Almighty states:

إِنَّ أَوْلِيَاءَهُ إِلَّا الْمُتَّقُونَ

[‘Its (true) guardians are only those who are righteous.’ (Al-Anfal, 8:35)]”

Whilst expounding upon this verse, *إِنَّ أَوْلِيَاءَهُ إِلَّا الْمُتَّقُونَ*, i.e. ‘Its [true] guardians are only those who are righteous’, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

“To attain this friendship, one must possess taqwa. If one were to attain this whilst remaining fearful of God, then he would surely attain excellence.”

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, p. 340, footnote)

If one desires to be a friend of God, he must remember that it can only be attained through righteousness and if he has the fear of God in his heart, then he will be able reach the stage of excellence.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then states:

“When there remain absolutely no further stages of taqwa, one will then be counted amongst the ‘friends of Allah’. In reality, the final stage of taqwa is a sort of death because when one contests all the sides of the inner self, it will cease to exist. This is why it is said:

مُوتُوا قَبْلَ أَنْ تَمُوتُوا

[‘Bring about a death (of your inner self) before death overtakes you’.]

The inner-self desires worldly pleasures and is completely unaware of the hidden pleasures (i.e. it does not know of the pleasures of God Almighty and the spiritual pleasures which are hidden). Man only knows the apparent attractions of the world and that is all that the inner-self desires.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then explains:

“In order to make the inner self aware of this, it is necessary for one to firstly bring about a death upon the worldly and physical pleasures and make the inner self aware of the hidden pleasures”;

“It is at this point that the divine pleasures, which are a manifestation of the heavenly life, shall begin.”

When one begins to learn of the hidden pleasures,

then the manifestation of the heavenly life will also begin. Whilst advising his community in this regard, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

“The members of our Jama’at should bring about a death upon themselves.”

This was not just his advice to those who have attained great spiritual heights and people of greater esteem, rather it was generally to each and every member of the Jama’at. Do not be under the impression that one must hold a special rank to reach God Almighty and that not every person can attain this. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) gave general advice and said to his Community. He states:

“In order for the members of my Jama’at to bring about a death upon their inner self and to attain righteousness, they must first strive in this regard, just as when children who learn fine-writing at first, write letters rather sloppily, but in the end, after much practice, the letters become neat and orderly. Likewise, they are also in need of striving. When God Almighty sees their efforts, He Himself will show mercy.”

It was previously mentioned:

وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِينَا

[And (as for) those who strive in Our path’]

Whilst elaborating on this further, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

“The meaning of ‘striving’ in the verse وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِينَا [And (as for) those who strive in Our path’] is that man must practice and strive in this manner and pray to God.”

That is when God Almighty will show mercy and grant the fruits of their labour. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states further:

“The meaning of striving is that man must practice and strive” in the same manner that a child does, “and so, on the one hand he prays, but on the other, he makes full planning and preparation. In the end, God Almighty sends down His grace and the passion of the inner-self will start to fade away and diminish. Thereafter, such a state is brought about just as water is thrown on fire. There are many who are engulfed in the affliction of the nafs-e-ammarah [the self inclined to evil].”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then says to the Jama’at in regard to our internal reformation:

“I have observed that people among the Jama’at become involved in disputes”, i.e. there are mutual quarrels and disagreements, “and even the smallest of arguments can lead to one attacking the honour of his brother and quarrels with him. This behaviour is extremely inappropriate and this should not take place. In fact, what is the harm done if one admits to their mistakes?”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

“Over the smallest of matters, some people do not rest until they have humiliated the other. It is vital for our Jama’at to abstain from all of this. One of the attributes of God Almighty is ‘Sattar’ [the One Who conceals faults]; why then do they not show mercy to their brothers and conceal their faults? One ought to conceal the shortcomings of their brethren and not attack their honour.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) further says:

“There are still many people in the Jama’at, who, if they hear even a small point raised against them, become enraged. Whereas, it is vital to discard such emotions so that one develops meekness and forbearance in their disposition.”

He further writes:

“It is often observed that when two people quarrel over even the smallest of matters, they become intent on overcoming the other”, i.e. in order to win the argument over the other. “In such instances, one ought to forsake such emotions and in order to settle the dispute, one ought to willingly accept defeat. It should not be the case that in the dispute, one tries to humiliate their brother.”

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, pp. 341-342)

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) advises:

“To disclose the faults of others is the root of arrogance and a disease.”

As mentioned, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) stated that to overcome one’s brother is the root of arrogance. Secondly, he mentioned about propagating someone else’s weakness. He further elaborated that if one has a desire to defeat their brother, it is the root of arrogance and if one propagates the fault of another, then this is a grave disease.

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) says:

“These matters cause the soul to decay and therefore one ought to abstain from such practices. Thus, all of these matters are associated with righteousness. The one whose inner and outer traits are infused with righteousness is deemed amongst the angels because no form of rebellion is left within them. Adopt righteousness, for only after this can one receive the blessings from God Almighty. A righteous person is saved from the afflictions of this world as God Almighty covers their shortcomings. Until one adopts this method, all else will be in vain and such people are the ones who will derive no benefit from pledging allegiance to me.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) further states:

“Always remember that verbally pledging allegiance to me is of no use, for God Almighty desires one to bring about a pious transformation within them.”

He continues,

“One will derive no benefit [from pledging allegiance] and how can one do so when injustices remain within one’s character. If one still has arrogance, conceit, vanity, pretentiousness and is easily overcome with rage, just like other people, then what is the difference between the two?”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) further elaborates on this by saying:

“Therefore, bring about a transformation within yourselves and adopt the most excellent virtues. If there is even one pious individual in the entire village, they will be astonished and influenced by him.”

If there is a pious person who has a virtuous disposition and grants benefit to others; if he is humble and controls his passions, then the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has said that the people will turn to him owing to his beneficence. This is also a form of Tabligh. A pious person who adopts piety owing to the fear of God Almighty is bestowed a spiritual awe from God Almighty, which impacts the hearts of others and they affirm that such a person is a man of God. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) explains:

“No matter how much one opposes that individual, gradually they will become his followers, and instead of looking at him with contempt, they will attest to his grandeur.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) further states:

“There is no doubt that the one who is sent by God Almighty is granted a part of divine majesty and this is the way of the righteous. Remember, to upset one’s brother over insignificant matters is wrong. The Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, was the embodiment of the most perfect morals, and God Almighty has declared that his example is the final model for mankind.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) says:

“Today, if one still has traces of barbarity within them, then it will be truly regrettable and unfortunate. Thus, do not slander others because sometimes, when one slanders another person, they themselves become embroiled in that trait for which he accused the other person.”

If he does not have the trait within him, then you will be guilty of defamation and become immersed in that very evil.

“However, if the other person truly has the shortcoming, for which he is accused, then his matter is between him and God. Despite this, no one has a right to slander another.”

If one has an ill habit, then that is between that individual and God Almighty. However, if the other person does not have the trait which he is accused of, then that accusation can revert back onto him. The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) says:

“Many people have the habit that they immediately raise sinful allegations against their brethren, this is something that ought to be avoided. Provide benefit for mankind and show sympathy to mankind ... be kind towards your brethren and courteous to your neighbours; treat your wives with kindness and above all abstain from Shirk [associating partners with God] as this is the first step towards righteousness.” (Malfuzat, Vol. 6, pp. 340-344, footnote)

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then proclaims:

“Righteousness means to abstain from even the smallest aspects of sin, but remember, piety is not that one declares themselves to be pious because they abstain from theft, usurping from others or avoids leering and adultery, as according to the wise, to call such deeds as an act of piety is worthy of amusement. The reason for this is if one commits these crimes such as theft or adultery, they will be punished for it.

“Therefore, to declare this to be piety is of no value to the wise. True piety is that one ought to help others and strive in the way of God Almighty with complete sincerity and loyalty, to the extent that one becomes prepared to sacrifice their life in the way of God. For this reason, God Almighty states:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ مُحْسِنُونَ

“Verily, Allah is with those who are righteous and those who do good.” [Al-Nahl, 16:129]

“It should be remembered that simply abstaining from sin is not a virtue, until one also performs virtuous deeds along with it.”

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, pp. 241-242)

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then states:

“Let it be known that the root of every virtue and piety is belief in God Almighty. The more one’s belief in God Almighty diminishes, the more one becomes negligent towards performing virtuous deeds.

“On the contrary, when one’s belief in God Almighty is strengthened, their deeds will also be good. When one has firm faith and believes in all the perfect attributes of God Almighty, at the same time, astonishing transformations are witnessed in one’s deeds.” When one has full conviction of the attributes of God Almighty, they undergo an astonishing transformation in their deeds.

“The one who truly believes in God Almighty does not have the ability to sin because this conviction cuts off all the limbs of one’s carnal desires and sin.”

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) then says:

“Observe, if one loses their sight, how would they be able to commit adultery or trespass of the eye? Similarly, if one’s hands are cut off, how can one commit sin by means of it?”

He further writes,

"In the same manner, if one reaches the stage of nafs-e-mutma'innah [the soul at rest], this state makes one blind and the eye no longer has the ability to sin. Although he can see, but at the same time, he does not see."

Although one in this state can see, however they no longer commit adultery of the eye because their ability to commit sin of the eye has been diminished.

"Although they possess ears, they are deaf. They can hear, but they do not hear any evil or sin. In this manner, all of one's carnal passions and faculties as well as internal passions that drive one to sin are diminished. Every power that enables one to sin are destroyed and the individual becomes like a corpse. They only act in accordance with the will of God and do not move until and unless they are commanded by God Almighty. This stage is developed when one has true faith in God Almighty and in return one is bestowed complete conviction in Him."

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) further states:

"This is the ultimate goal that one ought to strive to achieve."

Then further elaborating on the real goal that one ought to achieve and advising the Jama'at, the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) states:

"This is vital for our Jama'at and in order to attain perfect conviction, one ought to have perfect faith. Therefore, the primary goal of our Jama'at is that we ought to have true belief in God Almighty."

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, pp. 244-245)

The Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) further says:

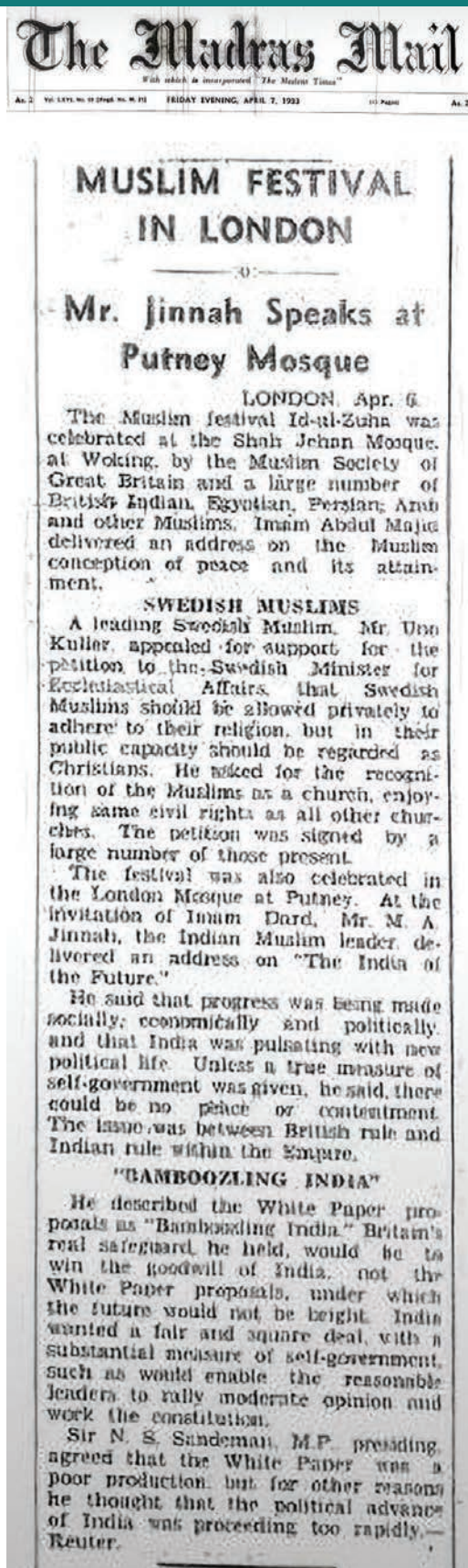
"No one can be pure unless God Almighty Himself purifies them. When one's soul falls at the threshold of God in complete humility and submission, God Almighty will then accept their prayers and they will be deemed a true righteous person. At such a stage, one will have the ability to understand the faith of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him. Until such a stage is reached, everything that one knows about faith, including all worship etc., is merely a custom and a philosophy that one has inherited from their forefathers and having heard them, they adopted it"; in other words, they would have seen their forefathers perform the same rituals and thus, they would adopt it, "but it would be devoid of any essence or meaning."

(Malfuzat, Vol. 6, p. 228)

Thus, this is the standard of righteousness and the level of understanding and implementation of one's faith which the Promised Messiah^h (peace be upon him) has drawn our attention to so that we may strive and act in accordance. We must fall at the threshold of Almighty God with utmost humility and whilst performing good deeds, seek help from Him in order

to attain these standards and fulfil the expectations of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him).

PAGE FROM THE PAST



Children's Stories: A Wise Deer and A Cowardly Tiger



There was a dense forest on the sides of a mountain. Many kinds of animals lived there. A mother deer and her two young fawns were feeding in the area. The young ones wandered happily here and there while the mother followed them to keep an eye on them. The young ones entered a cave which frightened the deer as it was a tiger's cave. There were bones of dead animals all over the cave. Fortunately, the tiger was not inside the cave at the time.

The mother tried to lead her young ones out of the cave when she heard a loud roar. She could see the tiger at a distance. It was heading towards them. Now it was too dangerous to leave the cave. She quickly thought of a plan. As the tiger got closer, the mother deer raised her voice and said very loudly and in a terrible voice:

"Dear children, don't cry. I shall capture a tiger for you to eat. You will have a good dinner."

When the tiger heard these words, he became greatly disturbed. He said to himself,

"Whose terrible voice is that from the cave? It must be a dangerous animal waiting to trap me. I think it's better to run away and escape death."

Therefore, the tiger began to run away as fast as possible. A jackal saw the running tiger.

"Why are you running in great fear?" the jackal asked.

The tiger said,

"My friend, a powerful and fierce animal has come to stay in my cave. The young ones are crying for a tiger to eat and the mother is promising to capture one for them. So, I am running away in great fear."

The cunning jackal was now sure that this tiger was a coward. It said to the tiger.

“Don’t be afraid. No animal is fiercer or stronger than a tiger. Let’s go together to find out who is in your cave.”

But the tiger said,
“I don’t want to take a chance. Maybe you will run away and leave me all alone to die. No, I don’t want to come with you.”

The jackal said,
“Trust me. Let’s tie our tails together. This way, I will not be able to leave you.”

Very reluctantly, the tiger agreed to this proposal. They tied their tails together and walked towards the cave.

The deer saw the jackal and the tiger coming together, with their tails tied. Once again she raised her voice

and spoke in her terrible voice,

“My dear children, I had requested my friend, the clever jackal, to capture a tiger for us. Now look, he has captured a tiger for us. He has tied the tiger’s tail to his tail to prevent the tiger from escaping. You will soon have tiger for dinner.”

When the tiger heard this, he was shocked. Now he was sure that the jackal had cheated him and decided to escape from the terrible animal waiting in his cave. He ran at great speed and forgot about the jackal tied to his tail. In this way, both got dragged over rocks and thorns. When the tiger finally stopped, they were covered with bruises and the tiger decided to move to another part of the forest.

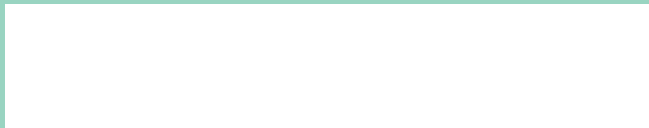
The mother deer and her young ones were able to leave the cave and join their herd safely.

Sudoku

4		1		6	5	2	8	7
7			1	9			5	3
6				7	8	4		9
	4	8	9	2		7	6	1
	7		5	4		8		2
1	2				6		4	
8	1			3	2	5	7	
3	6		8	5				4
		4	6	1		3	9	8

Children’s Puzzles

Here is an easy Sudoku puzzle for you to solve! Find the missing numbers so that each box of 3 x 3 squares must be filled with the numbers 1- 9, as well as each horizontal and vertical line. Therefore, no numbers should be repeated in any line. As a clue, fill in the missing number 1s in each box, then any missing 2s, etc.



Coded Message

IF MOSQUE = NPTRVF and MESSAGE= NFFTBFH, as shown here:

N	P	T	R	V	F
M	O	S	Q	U	E

N	F	T	T	B	H	F
M	E	S	S	A	G	E

What is the secret message in the below?

N	J	S	A	B		H	I	V	M	B	N		B	I	N	B	E			
U	I	F		Q	S	P	N	J	T	F	E		N	F	T	T	J	B	I	

Rearrange the letters below to give the names of 5 animals you might find at the zoo

D	A	N	A	P			K	N	O	M	E	Y			
N	A	H	P	E	T	L	E		F	E	I	R	A	G	F

Word Scramble

Obituary: A Great Servant of the Community – Chaudhary Hameedullah Sahib

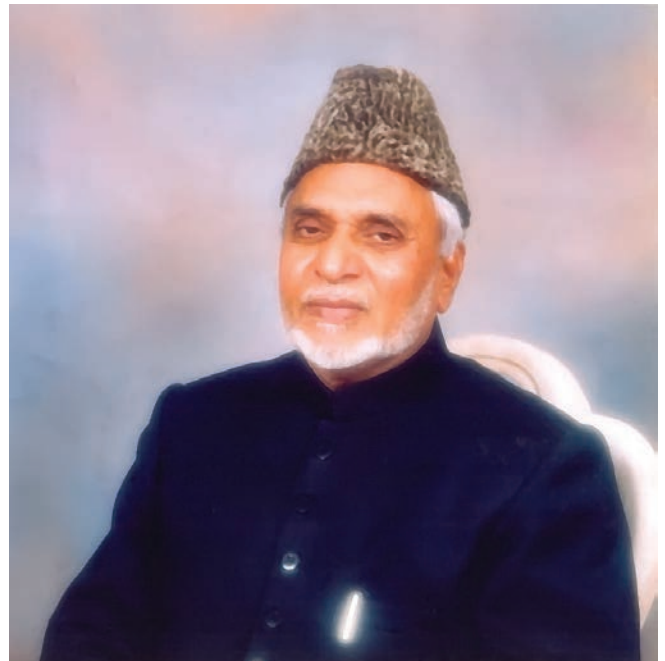
A GREAT SERVANT OF THE JAMA'AT, CH HAMEEDULLAH SAHIB, PASSED AWAY ON 7 FEBRUARY 2021, IN RABWAH. INNA LILLAHI WA INNA ILAIHI RAJIOON. HE WAS CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE WAKIL-E-A'LA IN TAHRIK-E-JADID RABWAH. HE WAS ALSO SERVING AS THE AFSAR JALSA SALANA, A CAPACITY HE SERVED FOR A VERY LONG TIME.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih V, in his Friday Sermon of 12 February, paid tribute to the life of Ch Hameedullah Sahib. Huzoor said that his father's name was Babu Muhammad Bakhsh Sahib and his mother's name was Aisha Bibi Sahiba. Chaudhary Sb was born in 1934 in Qadian. His father had accepted Ahmadiyyat five years earlier after seeing a dream in which the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him, directed him to accept Ahmadiyyat.

When the Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud launched the appeal in 1946 for people to devote their lives in service to the faith, Chaudhary Sb's mother presented him as a Waqfe Zindagi, a life devotee. On the advice of Hazrat Musleh Ma'ud, he completed his BSc in Mathematics, achieving second place in the province. He went on to do an MA in Mathematics at the Punjab University. He was appointed as a teacher at the Talim-ul-Islam College, Rabwah, in 1955, and later on became the Head of the Maths Department.

Khalifatul Masih III instructed him to leave the college in 1974 after it was nationalised and appointed him as Nazir Ziyafat. In 1982, Khalifatul Masih IV appointed him as the Wakil-e-A'la of Tahrik-e-Jadid Rabwah, and later as Sadr Majlis Tahrik-e-Jadid. He served in these capacities till his demise. He also served as Amir Muqami for some time during the time of Third Khalifa.

Huzoor continued that Chaudhary Sb was appointed as the Sadr Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Markazia from 1969 to 1973, with responsibility for Khuddam worldwide. Each country did not have their own Sadr in those days. The Third Khalifa made two very



insightful speeches at the time of his appointment and at its completion four years later, from which Huzoor quoted extensively. These elaborated on the status of the physical progeny of the Promised Messiah, as compared with his spiritual progeny and the importance of each.

When Khalifatul Masih IV migrated to London, he instructed Chaudhary Sb to come to London as well, and in a period of over a year he played a vital role in establishing the central offices of the Jama'at in London.

Among his other roles and responsibilities, Huzoor mentioned the following: Sadr Ansarullah for seventeen years; Chairman of the Khilafat Committee



for the election of the Fifth Khalifa; and President of the Khilafat Jubilee Committee. He also oversaw the arrangements for the historic Jalsa Salana Qadian when Khalifatul Masih IV attended, as the scale of the organisation, due to the larger number of participants, was much bigger than the local Jama'at could have dealt with.

Chaudhary Hameedullah Sahib is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters. Huzoor read out some of the wife's comments and the excellent manner in which he treated her. Often, she wrote, when he would come home late from the office, he would quietly heat up his own food and eat it. He would happily eat whatever was presented to him, and would happily wear whatever clothes he was given; he was very caring and thoughtful.

Huzoor commented that if everyone acted as he did, then the majority of domestic issues would automatically be resolved. His children said that he was not only their father but was also a friend. He always emphasised two things: offering the five daily prayers and listening to the Khutba Jumu'ah.

His colleagues with whom he worked also commented on the excellent manner in which Chaudhary Sahib used to work, the details he would focus on before making a decision and the kindness with which he treated everyone. Huzoor noted that he also personally undertook the training of life-devotees, which he did in an exemplary manner.

Chaudhary Sahib exemplified obedience to Khilafat.

Whenever he received any instruction from Huzoor, he would always implement it right away. At times he would receive such instructions at night, but regardless of the time, he would ensure that its implementation would begin right away.

Commenting on his humility, Huzoor recounted how once he went to the Langar Khana and said that he was in between meetings and had very little time to eat. He asked if there was anything he could quickly eat. Some food was heated for him, but when it was taken to him, it was seen that he had already taken some of the leftover food left on the table and eaten that, for he feared that waiting for the food to be heated would make him late for his next meeting.

In conclusion, Huzoor said that there are many more things which could be mentioned regarding Chaudhary Hameedullah Sahib, but he has only related a few due to the shortage of time. However, it is certain that there is no embellishment in whatever has been said. Huzoor added that he too worked with Chaudhary Sahib, who taught him many things. Then when Huzoor became Nazir-e-A'la, Chaudhary Sahib treated him with great respect. And when he became the Khalifa, Chaudhary Sahib exemplified respect and complete obedience.

Huzoor prayed that Allah may elevate his station in paradise, and that He may continue to grant Khilafat such great helpers as Chaudhary Hameedullah Sahib. Huzoor then led his Janaza Ghaib prayer after the Friday prayer.