

VOLUME 51 - NO. 07-08 - JULY-AUGUST 2022



# AHMADIYYA Gazette

CANADA 

“And do good;  
surely, Allah  
loves those who  
do good.”

(The Holy Qur'an 2:196)

WHY ARE  
WE CALLED  
*AHMADI?* pg. 10

USE OF  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND SOCIAL  
*MEDIA* pg. 12

New Feature:  
**KIDS ZONE** pg. 26





# MORALS *of* BELIEVERS



**H**azrat Khalīfatul-Masīḥ V (may Allah be his Helper) said:

“Now, what are those morals which ought to be found within a believer? They include increasing mutual love, affection and brotherhood. These ties of love and affection can be increased by tearing down the walls of reproaches, grievances and hatred. We will fulfill our obligations and be considered true believers when we will be free of all moral weaknesses

and when everyone of us resolves to do even the smallest acts of goodness; and to safeguard against every type of evil; and to try our utmost to fulfill the rights of our relationships; and when we realize that having pledged allegiance to the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> we must now honour that relationship which Allah the Exalted has established, i.e., that of an Ahmadi with an Ahmadi, and that we must set an outstanding example of being tender among ourselves.”

(Friday Sermon dated October 17, 2008)



**AḤMADIYYA GAZETTE CANADA**  
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## ABBREVIATIONS OF SALUTATIONS

- sa** Ṣallāllahu 'alaihī wa Sallam - May peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!  
Usage: Salutation written after the name of the Holy Prophet Muḥammad<sup>sa</sup>
- as** 'Alaihis-Salām/ 'Alaihas-Salām - May peace be upon him/her!  
Usage: Salutation written after names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muḥammad<sup>sa</sup>, and pious women prior to the era of the Holy Prophet Muḥammad<sup>sa</sup>
- ra** RaḍīAllahu 'anhū / 'anhā/ 'anhūm - May Allah be pleased with him/her/them!  
Usage: Salutation written after names of Companions of the Holy Prophets and Companions of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>
- rh** Raḥimahullāh - May Allah have mercy upon him!  
Usage: Salutation written after the names of deceased, pious Muslims who are not Companions
- aa** Ayyadahullāhu Ta'ālā binaṣṛihil-'Azīz - May Allah be his Helper!  
Usage: Salutation written after the name of Hazrat Mirzā Masroor Aḥmad, Khalīfatul-MasīḤ V<sup>aa</sup>



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# PEARLS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## THE HOLY QUR'ĀN

And worship Allah and associate naught with Him, and show kindness to parents, and to kindred, and orphans, and the needy, and to the neighbour that is a kinsman and the neighbour that is a stranger, and the companion by your side, and the wayfarer, and those whom your right hands possess. Surely, Allah loves not the proud and the boastful. (4:37)

وَاعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَبِذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ  
وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَالْجَارِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْجَارِ الْجُنُبِ وَالصَّاحِبِ  
بِالْجَنْبِ وَابْنِ السَّبِيلِ وَمَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ مَنْ  
كَانَ مُخْتَلًا فَخُورًا ﴿٣٧﴾

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ إِنَّكَ حَسِيدٌ مَّجِيدٌ

## HADITH

Hazrat Jabir, may Allah be pleased with him, narrates that the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said:

“The one dearest to me and the one nearest to me on the Day of Judgment will be the one who is most well-mannered. The most loathsome from among you and furthest removed from me on the Day of Judgment will be the boastful, the braggarts and the mutafayhiqun.” The Companions enquired, “We know the ones who are boastful and those who brag, but who are the *mutafayhiqun*?” The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> answered, “They are the arrogant and the spiteful.” (*Jami' at-Tirmidhi*, Kitab-ul-Birri was-Silah ‘an Rasulillah)

عَنْ جَابِرٍ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ إِنَّ مِنْ أَحَبِّكُمْ  
إِلَيَّ وَأَقْرَبَكُمْ مِنِّي مَجْلِسًا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ أَحْسَنُكُمْ أَخْلَاقًا وَإِنَّ أَبْغَضَكُمْ  
إِلَيَّ وَأَبْعَدَكُمْ مِنِّي مَجْلِسًا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ التَّزَارُونَ وَالْبُتَشْدَقُونَ  
وَالْبُتْفَيْهَقُونَ قَالُوا يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَدْ عَلِمْنَا التَّزَارُونَ وَالْبُتَشْدَقُونَ  
فَمَا الْبُتْفَيْهَقُونَ قَالَ الْبُتْكَبْرُونَ (جامع الترمذی، کتاب البر والصلة  
عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ بِابِ مَا جَاءَ فِي مَعَالِي الْأَخْلَاقِ)



# of Wisdom



Mināratul-Masīḥ  
Qadian, India

SO SAID THE PROMISED MESSIAH<sup>AS</sup>

## A Course of Morality for the Community

Your moral state ought to be so admirable, that with pure intentions, when you seek to advise someone or direct their attention towards an error they have committed, you ought to do so in an appropriate atmosphere so that the person is not offended. Do not view anyone with contempt. Do not break anyone's heart. There should be no mutual discord within the community. Never look down upon your poor brethren in faith. Do not take pride unjustly in your wealth and riches, or in the distinction of your family background and consider others to be inferior and unworthy. In the sight of God Almighty, honourable is the one who is righteous. As such, Allah the Exalted states:

إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ

Verily, the most honourable among you, in the sight of Allah, is he who is the most righteous among you.

One should treat others also with the best morals, for those who exhibit ignoble morals do not act with goodness.

(*Malfuzat* Vol. 1, English Translation, p. 216)



# GUIDANCE FROM HAZRAT KHALIFATUL-MASIH (MAY ALLAH BE HIS HELPER)

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE FRIDAY SERMONS

*Note: The Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada takes full responsibility for any errors or miscommunication in these brief synopses of Huzoor's<sup>aa</sup> Friday sermons.*

1

### JUNE 3, 2022 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE: HAZRAT ABU BAKR<sup>ra</sup>

Mentioning the battles fought against rebels and opponents of Islam during the Khilafat of Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>, His Holiness (may Allah be his Helper) mentioned the valour of Hazrat Zaid bin Khattab<sup>ra</sup>, brother of Hazrat 'Umar bin Khattab<sup>ra</sup>.

He also narrated the account of the killing of the false prophet Musailimah by Wahshi, who hoped it would serve as an expiation for his having martyred Hazrat Hamza<sup>ra</sup> in the Battle of Uhud.

Towards the end of the sermon, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> enjoined everyone to pray for all Ahmadis suffering persecution around the world, especially in Pakistan, Algeria and Afghanistan.

His Holiness<sup>aa</sup> announced that he would be leading the funeral prayers of some respected members of the Jama'at, including Maulana Naseem Mahdi, former Amir & Missionary In-Charge Canada, who passed away at the age of 69. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> prayed, "May Allah the Almighty grant him His forgiveness and mercy, elevate his station and grant him a place in paradise among his loved ones. May Allah the Almighty grant patience to his wife and children, and enable them to keep his virtues alive. Just as he spent his life with loyalty, may his progeny also live their lives with loyalty."

2

### JUNE 10, 2022 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE: HAZRAT ABU BAKR<sup>ra</sup>

Continuing his series of sermons on Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>, His Holiness (may Allah be his Helper) narrated faith inspiring incidents from the Battle of Yamamah.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> recounted the bravery of Hazrat Umm-e-Ammarah<sup>ra</sup>, one of the bravest Muslim women who fought alongside her son in the battle, and who valiantly kept fighting despite having one of her arms severed. When Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup> was informed of the meritorious feats of bravery displayed by Muslims such as Hazrat Abu Aqeel<sup>ra</sup> and Hazrat Ma'an bin 'Adi<sup>ra</sup>, he was moved to tears.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> quoted a passage from the writings of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, in which he stated that Hazrat 'Aisha<sup>ra</sup> related: "When my father was appointed Khalifah and Allah entrusted to him the leadership of the Muslims, he

faced a storm of ordeals from all sides. He encountered the evil of the false prophets and the treachery of the apostates and hypocrites. The calamities that descended on him were such that if the like of them had descended on mountains, they would have broken asunder. However, he was given the patience of the Prophets until the help of Allah came and the false prophets were killed and the apostates destroyed. It was then that disorder disappeared and tribulations vanished. All obstacles crumbled into dust. The matter had been decreed and Khilafah was established. Allah saved the believers from afflictions and changed their state of fear into a state of peace and security. He established for them their Religion, made a whole world stand firm on the truth, and disgraced those who had made mischief. Allah fulfilled His promise, supported His servant as-Siddiq, and destroyed the transgressors and the evil-doers." (*The Reality of Khilafah*, p. 33)

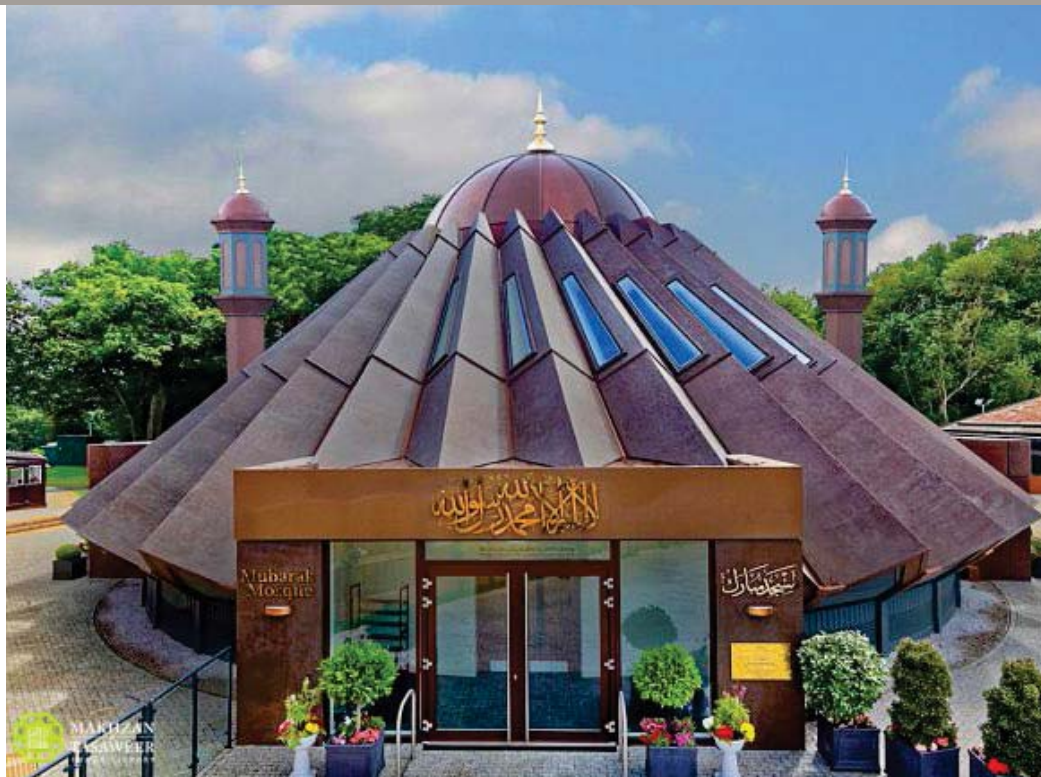
### JUNE 17, 2022 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE: HAZRAT ABU BAKR<sup>RA</sup>

Having mentioned the events of the Battle of Yamamah in previous sermons, Huzeer continued his series of sermons on the life of Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup> by describing other expeditions which were dispatched to quell the mischief of the rebels.

A false prophet, Laqit bin Malik Azdi, had emerged in Oman. As he amassed some ignorant followers, Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup> sent three of his most trusted men, Hazrat Hudhaifah<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Arfajah<sup>ra</sup> and Hazrat Ikrimah<sup>ra</sup> to subdue the rebel uprising. In the ensuing battle, God granted Muslims victory through support from envoys that arrived from Bahrain.

Huzeer<sup>aa</sup> also mentioned the marriage of Hazrat Ikrimah<sup>ra</sup> with Asma bint Noman, whose *nikah* was announced with the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, but due to an unbecoming action of hers, this marriage ended before it was ever solemnized. Certain people objected to Hazrat Ikrimah's<sup>ra</sup> marriage to Asma, however, Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup> stated that he had done nothing wrong by marrying her.

Relating some details of the sixth expedition against the rebels, which was led by Hazrat 'Amr bin Al-'Aas<sup>ra</sup>, Huzeer<sup>aa</sup> introduced him saying, "Hazrat 'Amr bin Al-'Aas<sup>ra</sup> was an eloquent and articulate orator. He was intelligent, expressive, distinguished in politics and a commander-in-chief of the army. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> trusted him in military expeditions. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> declared that the family of 'Amr bin Al-'Aas, his son 'Abdullah and Umm 'Abdullah are among the best households." Regarding his services, Huzeer<sup>aa</sup> said, "Hazrat 'Amr bin Al-'Aas<sup>ra</sup> accepted Islam in 8 AH, six months prior to the conquest of Makkah. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> appointed him as the governor of Oman and he remained in this post until the demise of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. After this, he joined the conquest of the Levant. During the era of Hazrat Umar<sup>ra</sup>, he served as the governor of Palestine. Among his notable achievements is the conquest of Egypt. After conquering Egypt, Hazrat Umar<sup>ra</sup> appointed him as the governor of Egypt...It is said that he passed away in 43 AH."



### JUNE 24, 2022 – MEN OF EXCELLENCE: HAZRAT ABU BAKR<sup>RA</sup>

In continuation of the series of sermons on the life and character of Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) narrated details of expeditions sent out to combat rebel forces.

The seventh expedition against the rebels was led by Hazrat Khalid bin Sa'eed<sup>ra</sup>, a very early and devoted companion of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. Huzeer<sup>aa</sup> stated that he "was among the early people to have accepted Islam. According to some, he accepted Islam after Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup> and he was the third or fourth Muslim. According to others, he was the fifth person to accept Islam. Prior to him, only Hazrat 'Ali bin Abi Talib<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Zaid bin Haritha<sup>ra</sup> and Hazrat Sa'ad bin Abi Waqas<sup>ra</sup> had accepted Islam."

After seeing a dream in which the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> was protecting him from falling into fire, Hazrat Khalid bin Sa'eed<sup>ra</sup> went to the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> and accepted Islam. He had to endure much persecution at the hands of his father and brothers, however he remained steadfast upon his faith.

Mentioning the ninth expedition,

Huzeer<sup>aa</sup> related the services of its commander, Hazrat Ala bin Hadrami<sup>ra</sup>. Huzeer stated, "Hazrat Ala<sup>ra</sup> was known as one whose prayers would be answered, regarding which there are various narrations. Hazrat Abu Hurairah<sup>ra</sup> used to say that he had been greatly influenced by his qualities and the acceptance of his prayers. Among many other things, it is mentioned in one narration that once, they departed from Medina towards Bahrain when, along the way, they ran out of water. Hazrat Ala bin Hadrami<sup>ra</sup> prayed to Allah upon which he saw a spring flowing from under the sand and they all drank to their fill."

In a letter addressed to Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>, Hazrat Ala bin Hadrami<sup>ra</sup> wrote: "Allah the Almighty caused a water spring to emerge for us in the valley of Dahna, even though there was no sign of water there. He manifested a miracle for us after we had experienced great hardship and worry. This is a lesson for us all in that we ought to praise Him. Thus, I request you to pray to Allah for us and seek help for those who serve the faith." Upon receiving this report, Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup> praised Allah the Exalted and said, "...for a spring to emerge from there is a huge sign of Allah's power which we had never heard about from any nation of the past."



GUIDANCE FROM HAZRAT KHALIFATUL-MASIH  
(MAY ALLAH BE HIS HELPER)

# Q&A *and more...*



## THE FUTURE OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY

On June 12, 2022, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) held a virtual online meeting with members of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya from the state of Victoria in Australia.

In this meeting, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> was asked about the future of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, whether there will be rapid growth after some major world events. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> replied:

“Every religion has spread after some significant event occurs. Christianity too spread once the Roman Emperor converted to Christianity. Although as a result, they changed the teaching and it became corrupted, however [it proves] that such events do occur. So, miracles will take place – it is a promise of Allah the Almighty with the Promised Messiah and it will come to pass. That is why the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) has stated that he has come in the likeness of Jesus (peace be upon him) and that the community and religion of Jesus (peace be upon him) took more than 300 years to spread. So, 300 years will not yet have passed when in the world you will see a majority of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. Certainly, such events will occur after which the progress of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community will take place, God willing... Allah knows best when this shall come about. According to the prophecy of the Promised Messiah (peace be upon him) it will occur before the completion of 300 years of the establishment of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. 133 years have now passed. That is why I have said that the next 20 or 25 years are very crucial for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. We shall see how much it spreads within that time. After that, God willing, it will be a time for the spread of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.”

(Source: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2022/06/khuddam-from-victoria-australia-have-honour-of-virtual-meeting-with-world-head-of-ahmadiyya-muslim-community/>)



## IS ABORTION PERMITTED IN ISLAM?

On May 28, 2022, during a virtual meeting with female members of the Waqf-e-Nau Scheme aged 15 and above from the United States, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> was asked about the permissibility of abortion in Islam. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> responded:

“Islam says that you should not kill your children because of the fear of their upbringing, or [fear of a lack] of finances. That is the only thing which Islam prohibits for abortion. Otherwise, Islam says that if the health of the woman is at risk, you can do abortion. If the baby is not properly developing, you can do abortion. In the case of rape, also, if a woman says that she cannot bear the burden of this child, for example because of the society, that they will raise fingers on her all the time – and even if the child is born, the child will also face difficulties in his or her environment – then the mother can decide to get it aborted, Islam permits it. But not because of the fear of poverty. Not because [of the worry] that, ‘How can I take care of the child?’ This is the only thing. Allah says that, ‘I provide you for your well-being, I provide you your food, and I am The Provider. So, you should not kill your baby, or kill your unborn child because of the fear of poverty.’”

(Source: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2022/06/waqf-e-nau-lajna-from-the-u-s-a-have-honour-of-a-virtual-meeting-with-head-of-the-ahmadiyya-muslim-community/>)

## THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN THE UPBRINGING OF CHILDREN

On June 5 2022, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) held a virtual meeting with members of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya South Australia in which a Khadim asked Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> what role a father should play in the upbringing of his daughters. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> replied:

“You should play the same role that you will to ensure the moral upbringing of your son... Parents must discharge their duties of training their children from the very childhood and let them understand who they are, who Muslims are, what the Kalima [declaration of faith] is, and what are the blessings of Allah the Almighty on us, how Allah the Almighty has given us so many things in this world and because of that, how we should be thankful to Allah the Almighty... Also, when they start learning, teach them simple prayers, short chapters of the Holy Qur’an and let them understand what Allah the Almighty is. So in this way, you put some religious thoughts in their mind.



“At the same time set your own example. They should see that their father and mother are praying and their father and mother are reading the Holy Qur’an daily, their father and mother have good relations, they respect each other – the way they talk is very pious and morally good – and that they have never seen their father shouting at their mother or abusing them or their mother. So, these are the things which the children observe and whatever they observe, they practice. They are very sharp. They are observing each and every action of yours. So the only training is your own action and deed. It should not be that you tell your children to do something and you are not doing that thing.”

In the same meeting, while answering a question related to the upbringing of Waqf-e-Nau children, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said:

“Moral training of the children is the obligation of the parents. It should not be that the parents, after having their child and dedicating the child as part of the Waqf-e-Nau scheme, should say to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community that it should take care of their moral upbringing... As long as the child is in the care of the parents, they must look after the child. If you greatly love someone and you wish to give them a gift, you would buy a lovely gift and wrap it beautifully and make it presentable. This is with regards to a gift you would be presenting to a human being. The gift a religious person presents to Allah the Almighty should be most beautiful. The gift of Waqf-e-Nau that you present to Allah the Almighty should not be such that it is unkempt. It should be beautiful and wrapped well and then presented to Allah the Almighty. If the parents develop this approach, then the mind-set of children will also be correct.”

(Source: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2022/06/majlis-khuddamul-ahmadiyya-south-australia-have-honour-of-virtual-meeting-with-world-head-of-ahmadiyya-muslim-community/>)

## BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN

On June 19, 2022, during a virtual meeting with members of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya from Brisbane, Australia, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> was asked about what could be done to bridge the generation gap between children and their parents. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said:

“From the very childhood you have to train your children. Tell them what is religion, why you are an Ahmadi Muslim and what is religion. So, if they are attached to the religion and you are able to infuse in them the importance of religion, then they would seek to learn more about religion. And when they are learning about religion, despite the fact that there is a generation gap, they will try to practise their religion and learn more about their religion.

“You see, they [i.e., children] are educated. When they ask you some question, [do not say] ‘No, don’t ask us, it is against the teaching of Islam.’ No, Islam says they must ask questions, and you have to satisfy them. If you don’t have the knowledge with regards to your religious matter, then you can ask your Missionary that, ‘Kindly answer the question of my son or daughter or my children.’ If it is that the question is related to any worldly thing, [for example] ‘how can we reconcile the world with religion,’ then you will have to see some scholars, read some books and tell them to read it. In the literature of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community there are books which can answer your question. So, this is how you can fill your generation gap. But there should be very friendly interaction between you and your children.

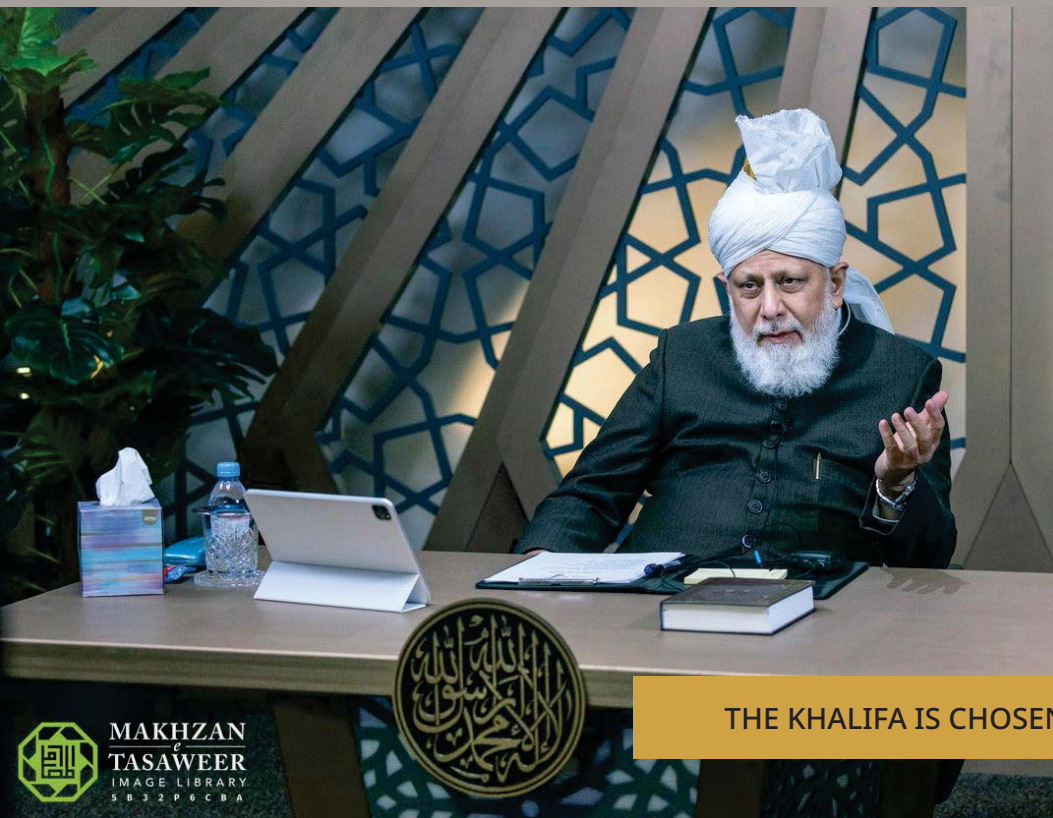
“Nowadays it is a good habit of the children that they ask, ‘why?’, and you have to answer the ‘why’, whether it is with regards to their religious question or any worldly question. For that you will have to increase your own knowledge as well. Don’t just put your whole weight on the shoulder of the Community. You will have to bear it yourself.”

“So, if they are attached to the religion and you are able to infuse in them the importance of religion, then they would seek to learn more about religion. And when they are learning about religion, despite the fact that there is a generation gap, they will try to practise their religion and learn more about their religion.



(Source: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2022/06/khuddam-from-brisbane-australia-have-honour-of-virtual-meeting-with-world-head-of-ahmadiyya-muslim-community/>)





## THE KHALIFA IS CHOSEN BY ALLAH

In a virtual meeting with members of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Sydney, Australia, held on June 26, 2022, a Khadim asked Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> how he could prove to his non-Ahmadi friends that the Caliphs of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community are chosen by God Almighty. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> stated:

“You see, Allah the Almighty utilises human beings and Allah the Almighty puts it in the hearts of the people (who to appoint as the Khalifa) ...I was not known to everybody [in the electoral college for the election of the Khalifa]. I think not more than 5% people had knowledge about me, and there were some Arabs and some foreigners or Africans too. They say suddenly something happened that Allah the Almighty put it in their hearts that, ‘You should try to raise your hands in favour of this person.’ So, although people choose the person, but it is Allah the Almighty who puts it in their hearts. There are quite a good number of narrations of different people, those who have expressed how did they feel during the election and what happened and if you increase your knowledge first, read that, then you can satisfy your non-Ahmadi friends or even your own fellow Khuddam members.”

“Even in the Qur’an, it is said that there are different ways; sometimes Allah the Almighty Himself appoints somebody, as prophets. Sometimes, it is through some people, and that is what we see in the history of Islam. Who chose Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>? There was a conflict between Ansar and Muhajirs. They wanted to choose their Khalifa from their own tribes, from their own nation. Ansar were saying that we shall choose our Khalifa from among Ansar. Muhajireen were saying no, we shall choose our Khalifa from among Muhajireen. Then, Hazrat Umar<sup>ra</sup> spoke or Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup> spoke on this issue, and later on they amicably came to the conclusion that, ‘Okay, we shall do the Bai’at of Hazrat Abu Bakr<sup>ra</sup>.’ The same thing happened during the election of Hazrat Umar<sup>ra</sup>. This is in Islamic history and that is being followed in our system. We have not adopted a new system. We are following the same old system.”

“So this is how Allah the Almighty’s decree works. It is the decree of Allah the Almighty, and He puts it in the hearts of the people.”

(Source: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2022/07/khuddam-from-sydney-australia-have-honour-of-virtual-meeting-with-world-head-of-ahmadiyya-muslim-community/>)

# WHY ARE WE CALLED *Ahmadi?*

Henceforth, the Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada will be serializing sections of the book “Invitation to Ahmadiyyat” by Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmood Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>. This book was written in 1926 and serves as a primer of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community’s doctrinal beliefs.

**T**he following pages contain an account of the beliefs and teachings of the Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam, an elucidation of the claims of its Holy Founder and the arguments on which they are based.

My object in writing these pages, dear reader, is to deliver to you and others the Message which God has addressed to mankind today to bring them again to Islam and its Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!). If you take the trouble to read these through you will not only earn my deep gratitude but also the Grace and Approval of God.

## THE NAMES AHMADI, AHMADIYYAT

A point I wish to make quite clear at the outset is that the names Ahmadi, Ahmadiyyat, etc., do not point to a new religion. Ahmadis are Muslims and their religion is Islam. The slightest deviation from it they consider wrong and degrading. True, Ahmadis have adopted the names Ahmadiyyat, Ahmadiyya Movement, Ahmadiyya Jama’at and so on, but the adoption of a name is not the adoption of a new religion. The name Ahmadiyyat is the name of a reinterpretation or a restatement of the Religion of the Holy Qur’an. It is a restatement presented

under divine guidance by the Founder of the Ahmadiyya Movement. The names Ahmadi, Ahmadiyyat, etc., are meant only to distinguish Ahmadi Muslims from other Muslims, Ahmadi interpretation from other interpretations of Islam.

## THE NAME ISLAM

The name Islam is the name which God Himself gave to the followers of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> and which long before him had found an honoured place in the prophecies of earlier prophets. Thus the Holy Qur’an says:

He [God] gave you the name Muslims before, as well as in this [the Qur’an]. (22:79)

And in the Bible:

Thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name. (Isaiah 62:2)

No name can be more blessed than the name which God Himself chose for His servants and which He invested with importance by making other prophets prophesy about it. Who will give up this name?

It is dearer to us than our lives. The religion it connotes is for us the only religion, the

only source of spiritual life.

But as in our time different groups of Muslims, out of regard for their special beliefs and outlook, have adopted different names, it became necessary for us to adopt a name to distinguish ourselves from others. The best name we could adopt was the name Ahmadi or Ahmadiyyat. This name has a significance for our time. Ours is the time appointed for the propagation, all over the world, of the Universal Message of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. It is the





time for the diffusion of the Praises of God and for the spread of a knowledge of His Bounty and Beauty, the time for the manifestation of the attribute of *Ahmadiyyat*, the attribute of *Muhammadiyyat* having had its manifestation already. A better name could not have been adopted by us.

We are Muslims heart and soul. We hold the beliefs a true Muslim must hold, and deny the beliefs a true Muslim must deny. If, in spite of our sincere subscribing to the truths of Islam and our conforming to the Commands of God, anybody attributes unbelief, or Kufr, to us and describes us as innovators or as believers in a new religion, he is unkind and cruel. He is answerable to God for this. A man may be convicted for what he declares with his mouth, not for what he holds in his heart. For who can say what is in a man's heart? If a person accuses another of saying one thing and believing another, he raises himself to the status of God. Only God knows what is in human hearts. Only He can say what a man thinks and believes. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> admitted this human limitation. And yet, who could know another man's heart better than he? Says he:

إِنَّكُمْ تَخْتَصِمُونَ إِلَيَّ وَإِنَّا أَنَا بِشَيْءٍ وَلَعَلَّ بَعْضَكُمْ  
أَنْ يَكُونَ الْخَبْرَ بِحُجَّتِهِ مِنْ بَعْضٍ فَإِنْ قَضَيْتُ  
لِأَحَدٍ مِنْكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِنْ حَقِّ أَخِيهِ فَإِنَّا أَقْطَعُ لَهُ  
قِطْعَةً مِنَ النَّارِ فَلَا يَأْخُذُ مِنْهُ شَيْئًا

“There are amongst you those who bring their disputes to me. I am a man as much as you. It is possible that some amongst you may espouse their cause better than others. Therefore, if I give to one what is due to another, I give to him a part of the fire. It is for him to refuse.” (Sahih al-Bukhari, Kitabul-Ahkam, (chap. Muuzatul-Iman); Jami‘ at-Tirmidhi; 1339)

We read in the Traditions that Usama bin Zaid<sup>ra</sup> was appointed commander of a division by the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. Usama<sup>ra</sup> confronted an unbeliever whom he attacked. When he was about to be killed, this unbeliever recited the Kalima, affirming his faith in the truth of Islam. Usama killed him nevertheless. When the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> heard of this, he castigated Usama. Usama said in his own defence: ‘O Prophet of God, he did so out of fear,’ upon which the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> said, ‘Why? Did you split his heart to see?’ Knowledge of what passes in human hearts is not given to ordinary mortals. It was not for Usama to guess whether this man’s affirmation of Islam was out of fear or conviction. Therefore, we may be condemned for what we declare, not for what may be supposed to lie in our hearts. What lies in our hearts is known only to God. He who claims to condemn another for what is in his heart exceeds his limits and is answerable to God for his excess.

So, while we of the Ahmadiyya Jama‘at declare ourselves Muslims, nobody has the right to say that our Islam is a pretence; that at heart we deny Islam or deny the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>; that we subscribe to a new Kalima or turn to a new Qibla in our prayers. If it were right for others to attribute such things to us, it would be right for us to attribute such things to others. We could say that their declaration of Islam is a pretence, that they, God forbid, deny Islam and the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> when they repair to their homes. But we cannot be led astray by opposition. We will not say of anyone that he says one thing and believes another; that he has one thing on his lips and another in his heart. In deference to the Shariyat, our judgment of others will be based on what they openly affirm and acknowledge.

(*Invitation to Ahmadiyyat*, pp. 3-7)

# USE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL MEDIA



*The following article is informed by a book of Syedna Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) entitled “Social Media.” Readers are highly encouraged to benefit from the book, which has compiled our Beloved Imam's<sup>sa</sup> guidelines on the use of technology and social media. It is available both online (<https://www.alislam.org/book/social-media/>) and in Jama'at bookstores.*



“As Satan seeks to hinder us from attaining the true object of our lives – to love and worship God—he tries his utmost to stop us from exercising virtues that please God.

Technology continues to be consumed in societies like never before. People are exposed to smartphones, tablets and other screens from a very early age. And as we get older, we depend on technology for a myriad of reasons. Whether it's television, computer, tablets, smartphones, social media or the next popular platform, screens are so pervasive they invariably affect us all.

Granted, smart devices offer us a slew of benefits, but they come with some obvious drawbacks that we ought to be wary of. We must constantly guard against the evils lurking in every platform. These are the pits one must carefully avoid.

God Almighty says in the Holy Qur'an,

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ ۚ وَمَنْ يَتَّبِعْ خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ فَإِنَّهُ يَأْمُرُ بِالْفَحْشَاءِ وَالنُّجَسِ ۚ وَلِكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَهْدِي لَكُمْ سُبُلَكُمْ ۚ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ٥٠

O ye who believe! Follow not the footsteps of Satan, and whoso follows the footsteps of Satan should know that he surely enjoins immorality and manifest evil. And but for the grace of Allah and His mercy upon you, not one

of you would ever be pure, but Allah purifies whom He pleases. And Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing. (24:22)

How can one protect oneself from misusing technology and social media? How can we protect ourselves from the moral and spiritual pitfalls of the screen?

Huzoor Anwar<sup>aa</sup> tell us the answer: “Each Ahmadi should make an effort to seek Allah's protection by doing *Istighfar*<sup>1</sup> all the time. Allah the Exalted is the greatest defence against Satan . . . *Istighfar* is the only way to come under the protection of Allah.”<sup>2</sup>

Thus, *Istighfar* is an olive branch Allah has given us to re-affirm our loyalty and love to Him. It releases us from the grip of Satan and brings us back to Allah.

As Satan seeks to hinder us from attaining the true object of our lives—to love and worship God—he tries his utmost to stop us from exercising virtues that please God.

Huzoor Anwar<sup>aa</sup> said: “You can observe this in most homes that the eldest to the youngest are not offering Fajr Salat on time as they were either watching TV or were online on the Internet until late, watching some program; and, as

a result, they could not wake up on time.”<sup>3</sup>

Offering the daily prayers on time is the key to fulfilling the purpose of our lives. It is the foremost means to sustain our soul and foster a living relationship with Allah.

Let us seek the protection of Allah and offer *Istighfar* constantly. Let us use technology in a positive, purposeful, and guarded manner, so it never becomes a hindrance to fulfilling the rights owed to Allah and the rights owed to humankind.

May Allah the Guide and Protector enable us to stay on the path of His pleasure. Ameen!

## ENDNOTES

1. Prayer for forgiveness and repentance: اَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ Meaning: “I seek forgiveness of Allah for all my sins and I turn to Him in repentance.”
2. Friday Sermon delivered 20 May 2016 at Gottenberg Mosque, Sweden. Published Al-Fazl International 10 June 2016
3. Ibid.

# Obituary

## MAULANA NASEEM MAHDI

A FOOT-SOLDIER OF KHILAFAT, A  
MODEL OF OBEDIENCE TO KHILAFAT,  
AN EMBODIMENT OF SELF-SACRIFICE



On May 24, 2022, Maulana Naseem Mahdi Sahib—a brave and selfless soldier of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at, a devoted servant of Khilafat Ahmadiyya and Nizam Jama'at, beloved to many, young and old—departed from this world and returned to His Creator.

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

To Allah we belong and to Him shall we return

Large crowds gathered in Aiwan-e-Tahir on Friday, May 27, 2022, before the Friday prayers to pay respects to the deceased. Before offering the funeral prayers of the late Maulana after the Friday prayers, Amir Jama'at Canada, Respected Lal Khan Malik, mentioned the qualities of his sincere and long time colleague. Burial took place in Maple Cemetery on the same day and silent prayers were led by Respected Amir Sahib. Hundreds of people were in attendance.

A large number of non-Ahmadi friends, political leaders, central and provincial ministers, mayors and councilors of many cities came to offer their condolences. And news of the demise also circulated widely through social media.

The Prime Minister of Canada, the Honorable Justin Trudeau, also tweeted about the sad news.

Members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada are grieving the demise of their former Amir and Missionary In-Charge. Maulana Naseem Mahdi dedicated his life for the welfare of others and left



behind a legacy of unforgettable memories for people to cherish.

As the Amir and Missionary In-Charge, not only did he leave an indelible mark on members of the Jama'at, but also on Canadian society. It was during his tenure that scores of refugees settled in Canada. Today, thousands of families acknowledge the support they received through the Jama'at.

Respected Maulana Naseem Mahdi was a man deeply respected by the people. He was a preacher, an Imam, a mentor, an administrator, a friend, a father, and a brother. He inspired Ahmadis both in Canada and abroad. Despite the great responsibilities he shouldered, he always met others with a smile and showed respect and kindness to all.

As a champion of interfaith harmony, Mahdi Sahib carried the peaceful message of Islam to all corners of Canada. Under his leadership, the Jama'at became the largest and oldest organizer of the World Religions Conference in Canada.

Mahdi Sahib always wanted the community to stand up and support others. He urged members to serve humanity because that is the hallmark of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at. The community launched campaigns such as blood drives or cleaning up the city after New Year's. Such initiatives continue to thrive to this day.

The city of Vaughan has become the hub of thousands of Ahmadi families. It was a point of focus for the Maulana to help establish the Jama'at in this city. He also held many talks with the city administration to lay the foundations of a new state-of-the-art hospital in Vaughan; and subsequently, the campaign of Run for Vaughan became a premier event for collecting funds

that went into building the new Vaughan hospital.

Today, the name of Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Canada is included in the list of donors displayed at the lower entrance of the Vaughan Hospital. The donations made were instrumental in building a medical surgical unit on the fifth floor. The wall has become a testament to Canada's spirit of sacrifice.

Housing has been a problem for the government for decades. Maulana Naseem Mahdi was instrumental in the formation of the Ahmadiyya Abode of Peace, an initiative that has provided affordable housing to hundreds of families over the years.

Though members of the Jama'at had various Jama'at centres to gather for worship over the years, the idea of a central mosque had not crystallized. The construction of the Baitul Islam Mosque made this dream a reality. Mahdi Sahib traveled all over the country to raise funds for the construction. In 1992, Canada's largest mosque (at the time) opened in Vaughan. At the inauguration of Baitul Islam mosque, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV<sup>th</sup> commented that our next focus should be to fill the mosque with worshippers.

Similarly, the Baitun Noor Mosque in Calgary and Baitur Rehman Mosque in Delta British Columbia were later built and opened doors for further projects of the Jama'at.

Maulana Naseem Mahdi was a proud Canadian and embraced all Canadian values that aligned with his religious beliefs. By the time the 9/11 attacks occurred, the Jama'at had already been donating thousands of bottles of blood and teaching Canada that patriotism is part of faith. As news of the 9/11 attacks began spreading, Mahdi Sahib had the opportunity

to enlighten Canadian politicians about the true and peaceful message of Islam.

He was blessed to serve the Jama'at under the guidance of three Khulafa'-e-Ahmadiyyat. He always emphasized what a great honour it was to serve under the Khalifa of the time.

In his Friday Sermon on June 3, 2022, our beloved Imam Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> mentioned details about Maulana Naseem Mahdi and led funeral prayers in absentia following the Friday Prayers. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said:

Naseem Mahdi Sahib, a Missionary of the Jama'at, was the son of Maulana Ahmad Khan Naseem Sahib. He passed away recently at the age of 69.

إِنَّا لِلّٰهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

By the grace of Allah, he was also a Musi. He had married twice; his first wife passed away and he is survived by his second wife and also two sons and a daughter from the first wife and two sons and a daughter from the second wife. He graduated from Jami'a Ahmadiyya Rabwah in 1976. He had the opportunity to serve in *Islah-o-Irshad Muqami*. Then, in 1977, he was posted to Switzerland and served as a Missionary until 1984. In 1984, he was appointed as Na'ib Additional Wakilut-Tabshir. For a few months he also served as acting Wakilut-Tabshir. In November 1984, when he came to London he had the opportunity to serve as Private Secretary. A few months later he was posted in Canada. From 1985 to 2008, he served as a Missionary, and later, as Missionary In-Charge. During this period, he also served as Amir Jama'at Canada. From 2009 to 2016, he served as Missionary In-Charge United States. Subsequently, he fell ill. Later, he was re-posted to Switzerland, but he wrote that



doctors have advised him not to take on any heavy responsibility due to poor health. He requested for indefinite leave. I asked him to follow the advice of the doctors and take care of his health and to inform me once he has recovered so his services can be utilised once again. However, his condition deteriorated.

As I said, he went to Canada in 1985. In 1986, 24 acres of land was purchased for the Baitul Islam mission house. Many Ahmadiis settled in Canada during his time there during which he helped them a great deal and many are extremely grateful for his kindness. He had the systems of chanda and tajnid computerised. Two large mosques in Toronto and Calgary were built and [prayer] centres were established in various other Jama'ats. I believe that perhaps the Vancouver mosque was also built during his time. In any case, two large mosques were certainly built [during his time there]. In 2003, during his tenure, Jami'a Ahmadiyya Canada was established by the grace of Allah the Almighty. Similarly, he played a pivotal role in the establishment of the MTA North America Station. May Allah the Almighty accept all of his services.

His wife Amatul Naseer Sahiba writes: "In the 26 years of our marriage, I found Naseem Mahdi Sahib to be supportive in every time of grief and pain. He was a very loving and respectful husband, a kind father and a devoted brother. He cared a great deal for humanity and was subservient and obedient to Khilafat. He had complete faith in Allah the Almighty and was a pious individual."

His wife has further writes: writes, "He selflessly served many people and met everyone in a loving manner. He could never bear to hear anything said against the Jama'at, nor would anyone have the courage to say such things in his presence. He was also extremely

hospitable. He would always pay special attention towards reciting Durood Sharif [prayer for invoking blessings upon the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>]." She says, "When we went for Umrah I asked him what he had prayed for. He responded by saying that he had only recited Durood Sharif."

His daughter, Saadia Mahdi Sahiba says: My father was very devoted to prayer." She says, "Whenever I asked him for prayers, he would

“He truly loved the Holy Qur'an and also told us to study it closely and try to understand its meanings; for then we will witness the powers of God and enjoy its reading.

advise me to recite Durood Sharif. In any matter which I asked him for prayers he would always draw my attention towards reciting Durood Sharif. One day, I asked him why he advised reciting Durood Sharif for every matter. He responded by saying that I should recite Durood Sharif and explained that Durood Sharif was the greatest prayer. If this prayer was accepted, then all other prayers would be accepted as well."

Ismat Sharif Sahiba says: "Mahdi Sahib was my brother-in-law. I have witnessed him closely for 22 years; he was extremely kind and caring and would meet everyone with great love. He had a deep-rooted connection with the Khalifa of the time."

His sister says: "When he was serving as a Missionary in Switzerland, a Swiss woman who had accepted Ahmadiyyat came to Rabwah on the occasion of Jalsa Salana. She came to our home in Rabwah, saying that she wished to meet Naseem Mahdi Sahib's mother, as she wished to meet the mother of a son who was so intelligent and who, in such a short amount of time, obtained mastery over so many languages;

who remains engaged in tabligh without any apprehension and was able to speak fluently on any topic."

His daughter-in-law says: "He always taught us about the importance of Durood Sharif and using it to support our prayers. Once, he explained that he was standing in a line at the airport when he realised that his passport had expired. He immediately began reciting Durood Sharif and remained standing in

the line. The person standing at the counter did not even check his passport and let him through."

His son-in-law writes: "When I got married, he treated me with great love and kindness. He would make tea for me himself; after the Fajr prayer he would sit with me and would relate a verse or an incident from the Holy Qur'an and would then explain its commentary. This was the subtle way in which he would train us."

His daughter Nawal Mahdi Sahiba says: "I always observed that he would pay great attention to Holy Qur'an and that he was an ardent lover of the Holy Qur'an. He would also enjoin us to intently study the Holy Qur'an and try to understand its meanings as a result of which we would be able to see the manifestations of Allah the Almighty's power and we would begin to enjoy reading the Holy Qur'an."

She says, "He regularly offered Tahajjud [pre-dawn voluntary prayers]; he would spend extended time standing, bowing and prostrating in prayer and would offer

his prayers with great fervour and passion. He would deliver dars on the Holy Qur'an during the blessed month of Ramadan and he would prepare these lessons with great effort (many others have written about this as well). He would explain the meanings of difficult words in the Holy Qur'an and would present other similar words which would help people easily understand."

Lal Khan Sahib, Amir Jama'at Canada says: "Since 1987, I worked with the former Amir and Missionary-in-Charge of Canada for a long time. Allah the Almighty bestowed upon him many qualities which he employed in service of the Jama'at. Allah the Almighty enabled him to establish and maintain friendships and to use these connections for the benefit of the Jama'at. Through personal relationships with officials from various departments of Canada, he introduced to them the message of the Jama'at."

*Masha'Allah*, he truly possessed this brilliant quality. He was able to build strong relationships which others would honour. It is because of this that non-Ahmadis in large numbers offered their condolences at his demise.

Lal Khan Sahib further writes: "Allah the Exalted enabled him to carry out the responsibility of helping and guiding people and the families arriving from Pakistan and other countries." He then says, "His relationship with members of the Majlis-e-Amila was like that of a friend." He says, "I was able to serve under his leadership for about 20 years, during which time he never made me feel that I was his subordinate due to him being the Amir. Instead, he treated me like a friend."

Dr Aslam Daud Sahib says: "In 2009, Naseem Mahdi Sahib was awarded the Order of Ontario medal, which is the province's highest award which can be given to any citizen.

It recognises excellence and outstanding service in any field." He says, "When he was appointed to USA, I met him once at Jalsa Salana. It was then that he advised me saying that I was now in a position where I should serve people as much as I possibly could. Whenever a Jama'at member comes to me, I should help them and should never turn them away. I should do whatever I can for them. He also said sometimes people do not speak in a becoming manner, but even still I should silently try to help them." He says, "I always saw him helping those in need and he would do so in a very discrete manner so that those in need never felt any sort of embarrassment."

Shakoor Sahib, who is a Missionary, says: "One advice he gave me particularly stuck with me. I was going to the Mosque to attend 'Asr prayer but wearing slippers. It was my third year of Jami'a. He said that life-devotees should leave home prepared for any situation; if instructed to leave for an urgent duty, they should be able to depart

correct answer."

Col. Dildar Sahib, the Secretary of the Mission House says: "A salient aspect of Naseem Mahdi Sahib was his obedience to the Khulafa. Among his achievements is the establishment of Peace Village. The way this came to fruition is that the Jalsa Salana used to be held in the field adjacent to Baitul Islam Mosque."

"During those days of Jalsa, every year, the owner of the neighbouring agricultural land complained that she is disturbed by the noise created by the Jalsa, and that she cannot tolerate the smell of langar. Later, when the government implemented new zoning laws to convert the area into a residential area, Naseem Mahdi Sahib was worried that neighbours who occupy these soon to be built homes will make similar complaints and raise issues in the future. Thus, on the occasion of Eid, he proposed a plan that Ahmadis should try to buy these new homes. And thus, by the grace of Allah, the community of Peace Village was

“Naseem Mahdi Sahib was a recipient of the Order of Ontario medal in 2009, which is the most honorable provincial award that can be given to any citizen.

directly instead of having to go home first. Always be ready both mentally and physically."

Farasat Umar Sahib, a Missionary in USA says: "During my interview for Jami'a, Mahdi Sahib asked me that if I were sent to Africa as a Missionary and faced opposition from the locals, who would I contact first—my mother or Khalifatul-Masih?" He says, "After giving it some thought, I said 'Khalifatul-Masih'. Upon this, Mahdi Sahib said he will recommend my admission solely based on this response, because this was the

established."

Zeeshan Goraya Sahib, a Missionary, writes that many youth received moral training from Naseem Mahdi Sahib and, because of it, many of those youth are serving as missionaries in different countries of the world. Because of his tarbiyat, they have deep spirit of love and obedience to Khilafat.

Asif Khan Sahib, Secretary Umoor Kharjiyya in Canada writes, "I was 13 years old when I came to Vaughan. At that time, there were a few dozen



Ahmadi houses in and around the mission house. I had little knowledge about the community. He treated me like a son and became my teacher. He would play basketball, all the while imparting teachings of the Jama'at to us. When I matured, he assigned me to contact different politicians." Even today [Asif Khan Sahib], continues to do great work in this field. He writes, "I received all my training from him."

Mirza Maghfoor Ahmad Sahib, National President of the Jama'at in USA writes:

"In 2016, Naseem Mahdi Sahib had the opportunity of serving in USA as Missionary In-charge and National Vice-President. He rendered great services in the USA. He went on many tours and initiated great efforts for propagating Islam in various cities. He also spread the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat in the USA through the media and various campaigns. In light of guidance received from Markaz London, he had the opportunity to establish a mission house in Mexico."

Waseem Syed Sahib, Secretary Tabligh USA writes: "He always tried to establish a bond of love and affection with everyone and took the first initiative. He knew how to motivate others to serve Islam. After coming to USA, he availed the various programmes held on September 11 to spread the teachings of Islam. He also launched the 'Muslim for Life' and 'Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>, the Messenger of Peace' initiatives. There were lectures delivered on these topics in 56 universities across USA. The book *Life of Muhammad* was given as a gift in great quantities to those who attended these lectures. He also started the 'Muslim for Loyalty' campaign. He delivered lectures in various universities, held meetings with local government officials

and raised awareness about the teachings of Islam."

During his Jalsa Salana speech, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>rh</sup> once mentioned the efforts of Naseem Mahdi Sahib whilst highlighting Jama'at Switzerland's efforts on introductory folders.

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>rh</sup> said:

"There are three tribes living in the mountainous regions which care for livestock in the Swiss mountains. All three tribes speak a different language. One of the tribes has 28,000 inhabitants, and the other two have less." Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>rh</sup> said, "Coincidentally, a folder was published for the tribe whose population was 28,000. Naseem Mahdi Sahib, may God Almighty reward him, after consulting with me, distributed 8,000 folders to every home in that region. It generated a lot of noise in the community. Two newspapers wrote very critically against this." (*Sabil al-Rashad*, Vol. 2, pp. 426-427)

"Upon this, I stated that an excellent prayer had been offered in his favour, due to the fact that hundreds and thousands of folders were distributed." (*Khutabat-e-Nasir*, Vol. 2, pp. 543-544)

In any case, this was the short report presented by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>rh</sup> during Jalsa.

May Allah grant him forgiveness and mercy, elevate his station in paradise and grant him a place among his loved ones!

May God Almighty grant patience to his wife and children and enable them to keep his virtues alive. Just as he spent his life with loyalty, may his progeny live their lives with loyalty.



**Maulana Naseem Mahdi Sahib is survived by: his wife—Amatul Naseer Mahdi Sahiba; his four sons—Ahmad Mahdi Sahib of America, Fareed Mahdi Sahib, Raffaad Mahdi Sahib, Taaha Mahdi Sahib; his two daughters—Saadia Mahdi Sahiba wife of Irfan Ahmed Sahib of Peace Village, and Navaal Mahdi Sahiba wife of Taimur Khan Sahib of America; his two brothers— Prof. Dr. Nasir Parvez Parwazi and Hadi Ahmad Khan Sahib of Peace Village; his three sisters—Jamila Tahir wife of (late) Abdul Majeed Shahid of Rabwah, Naeema Tahira Sahiba wife of (late) Raja Mukhtar Ahmad Sahib of Karachi, and Saleema Tahira Sahiba wife of Muhammad Aslam Bharwana Shaheed Lahore. In addition, relatives of the deceased reside in Canada.**

**May Allah grant them all the strength to embrace his virtues. May Allah forgive Maulana Sahib and grant him a high status in Paradise, Ameen.**

# NASEEM MAHDI - MY MENTOR

Fazal Masood Malik, PEI, Canada

**M**y earliest memory of Maulana Naseem Mahdi Sahib is from a Friday sermon on a hot July day in 1995. As a young immigrant who did not understand religion very well, I accompanied my family to Baitul Islam mosque. It was a pleasure to listen to a sermon in English. At the time, only four rows filled the mosque. I can recall the sermon with great clarity. Mahdi Sahib not only told us of the importance of a living relationship with Allah, but also how to achieve it. I took his advice.

Over the years, I realized that Mahdi Sahib was an exceptional mentor. I once told him that I consider him as such. He smiled. I don't think he saw himself that way. As a great mentor, he never told anyone what to do but he did find ways to bring out the best in others. He taught me not to hover or micromanage, but to instead offer thought-provoking perspectives to others.

His leadership was less about directives and more about exploring. One of his strongest qualities was bringing out the best in people. "Building strong leaders," he would often say, "builds strong teams." He never suggested anything without standing behind it. If you followed his suggestions, you always found him in step with you, walking with you. It did not matter if it was helping to settle 100 families in Saskatoon or building relations with federal and provincial governments—he was always ready to help. He would assist with something as personal as teaching Urdu to your children or



Naseem Mahdi Sahib with the author's son, Saad Ahmad, in 2003

deciding on a menu when an honored guest from First Nations visited for dinner. He was always there to lend a hand. He was steadfast in guiding you and helping you succeed. I regret that I had not seen him recently. My education from him feels incomplete.

His approach to life expressed deep trust that we should always be obedient to Khilafat. He taught us to raise our standards to reflect highly on the Jama'at. My relationship with him grew steadily as I traversed the corridors of service to Jama'at. His guidance on matters far beyond my own understanding and wisdom taught me how to become a better person, a better leader, and more importantly, a better partner and a father.

In 2002, Mahdi Sahib suggested, in the most unequivocal manner, that I move to Saskatoon. On the auspicious occasion of the centenary of the Jama'at in 1989, Jama'at Saskatoon purchased a piece of land for the purpose of building a mosque. Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV<sup>th</sup> had laid its foundation stone. Due to various reasons over time, the Jama'at population dwindled, and it became impossible to build a mosque with only 6 families remaining. Al-Hamdo lillah, I was able to comply with his request, settling in December of 2002. The target given to us by Respected Naseem Mahdi Sahib was to establish 100 families here, thus allowing for a sizable population to build and sustain a mosque.



“Naseem Mahdi Sahib was a humble man, with an unquestionable dedication to Khilafat. He was an exceptional man who lived a devoted life, always leading by example.

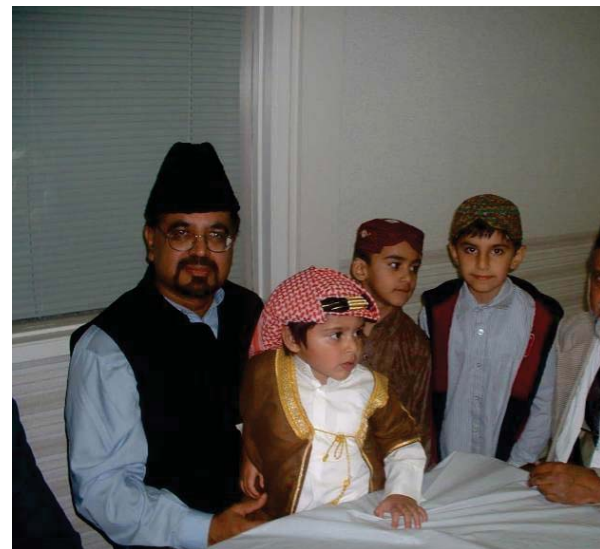
Once in Saskatoon, there were friends and there were foes. Everything we did, every move we made, every prayer we offered, was with one purpose only: the mosque. The plans were ready, and the approvals were in place. The mosque only waited for the right people and the right time. In hindsight, it was the plan of God. When the frustration of the slowness reached its peak, I stormed into the office of Mahdi Sahib in much anger and foolishness. I recounted every obstacle and told every tale that hindered the building of the mosque with much pain and a lot of tears. Respected Lal Khan Malik Sahib, our current Amir, was also present in the office. With the patience of a loving father, Mahdi Sahib smiled and said, “let me tell you something about this mosque.” He recalled the day when the cornerstone was laid by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV<sup>th</sup> at the site where the mosque stands today. Many dignitaries and reporters were present, as is the case with Ahmadi events around the world. One reporter asked, “When does His Holiness expect this project to start?” What followed surprised all the Ahmadis present there. Mahdi Sahib said they all expected Huzoor<sup>th</sup> to say “three to four months” but instead, he placed his right hand in his pocket, pulling the lip out, which was empty and said, “when the pockets of the people residing here allow them to.” My anger, frustration, and sadness all disappeared. It was replaced by a deep reverence for Khilafat. The wisdom in his words slowly etched an impact on me. I left the office with two men whose love and wisdom have guided me for much of my adult life. I knew that one day, when

Allah Wills, the mosque would be built. Al-Hamdo lillah, this mosque was built in 2016.

Another brilliant teaching moment occurred in 2007. Every year since its inception, the venue of Jalsa Salana Western Canada rotated among three provinces. These provinces were British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. On the second day of our Jalsa, a meeting of all Amila members from Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary, and Vancouver would take place under the chairmanship of Mahdi Sahib. They would each argue why they should be the hosts for the following year. Edmonton, Vancouver and Saskatoon would always side in friendly rivalry against Calgary and a friendly discussion would ensue, followed by a vote. With a few exceptions, the rotation had always occurred flawlessly. The Jalsa of 2007 was held in Edmonton and in 2008, it was expected to be in Saskatoon. Being the year of the Khilafat Centenary, the stakes were high. We had readied the posters for the 2008 Jalsa, expecting it to be held in Saskatoon. However, Respected Malik Lal Khan Sahib, Amir Jama'at Canada, permitted Calgary to host the Jalsa. They only had to ensure that it coincided with the opening of the mosque, which Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper) was expected to inaugurate. In youthful vigour, I said to our Respected Amir Sahib that “I do not accept this decision and will write to Huzoor.” He replied in the most amicable manner that I have every right to do so. Naseem Mahdi Sahib was present and listening intently. When the right moment



Jamia Ahmadiyya Staff and students, along with Naseem Mahdi Sahib, in a picture with Huzoor Anwar<sup>ra</sup>



Mirza Irshad Sahib and some kids of Saskatoon Jama'at with Naseem Mahdi Sahib



Naseem Mahdi Sahib, along with other members in a picture with Huzoor Anwar<sup>ra</sup>





Naseem Mahdi Sahib @ Jalsa Salana 2008

presented itself, he pulled me aside and with a firmness that was his hallmark and said, “are you challenging the decision of the Amir?” That was a learning moment in obedience for this humble servant of Khilafat. Needless to say, I apologized to our Respected Amir Sahib and learned a critical lesson that has fared me well.

In 2009, under the kind guidance of Respected Amir Sahib (Lal Khan Malik), I moved to PEI to fulfill the desire of our beloved Imam, Syedna Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>. While transiting through Toronto, I stopped by to see Respected Naseem Mahdi Sahib and sought his guidance. His advice was a marvel. Instead of mentoring me through his vast experiences, he parted with the wisdom entrusted to him by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>rh</sup>.

He said that when he was posted to Europe

(Switzerland), with his bags packed and car ready for the airport, he went to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih III<sup>rh</sup> and asked for advice. Huzoor<sup>rh</sup> said:

سکھے سچے کام کرنا ہے، تیزیوں نہیں دکھانی۔

Translation: Work thoughtfully, not hurriedly.

He lovingly wrote it down and I carry that advice with me every day, reflecting on the deep wisdom within.

Naseem Mahdi Sahib was a humble man, with an unquestionable dedication to Khilafat. He was an exceptional man who lived a devoted life, always leading by example. Through his actions, he proved to us that obedience to Khilafat is the only thing that matters, and everything else is a fleeting moment.





# CANADA DAY EVENT

## at Baitun Naseer Mosque, Ottawa

Farhan Iqbal, Missionary Ottawa





By the grace of Allah, on July 1, 2022, Ottawa East and Ottawa West Jama'ats held a successful event in celebration of the birth of Canada. This program has been held annually for many years but the difference in this event was that it was being held in-person for the first time in three years. Due to the pandemic, the last two events were held virtually with only the speakers present at the Mosque for livestream.

Preparations for the event started two to three months prior to the event. The Umoor Kharijiyya department worked hard in the planning and preparation of the event. Various teams were formed, and all worked hand in gloves in a well-coordinated manner and good team spirit for various tasks such as program, invitations, publicity, fundraising, entertainment, Mosque tours, refreshments, vendor stalls and security. The final setup was done a day earlier, that is, June 30, 2022, by a large number of volunteers of all age groups. The volunteers included Ansar, Khuddam, Lajna and Atfal, who spent many hours in the grounds of Baitun Naseer Mosque to help set up the stage, gazebo, stalls and banners, and for the cleanup.

On the day of the event, guests and Jama'at members began arriving at 10:30 am and by 11 am, a large crowd had assembled. The ceremony began at 11:15 am with Tilawat, followed by opening remarks by Sharjeel Ahmad Sahib, Secretary Umoor-e-Kharijiyya Ottawa East, who was one of the main organizers of the event. This was then followed by the national anthem recited by Nasiraat. I was then honored to present the topic "Gratefulness on Canada Day."

We were also grateful for the presence and remarks given by several dignitaries. These included Marie-France Lalonde (MP for Orleans), Stephen Blais (MPP for Orleans), Laura Dudas (Councillor and Deputy Mayor Ottawa), Matt Luloff (Councillor for Orleans ward), Mike Laroche (President, Cumberland Lions Club), Blake Small (representative for St. Andrews United Church Cumberland), and Kevin Foley (Deacon at St. Faustina Parish, Cumberland). Other than these guests, we also had Francis Drouin (MP for Glengarry—Prescott—Russell) come for a visit earlier in the morning.

The ceremony ended at about 12:00 pm. This was followed by flag hoisting and cake cutting. To entertain our guests, we arranged a free barbecue. There were also food stalls setup. For children, there was a large bouncy castle as well as balloon animals on offer. These activities and food were made available until 1:30 pm, after which windup began. Since Canada Day fell on Friday this year, after 1:30 pm, preparations began for Jumu'ah prayer, which was subsequently offered at 2:00 pm. The prayer was led by Luqman Ahmad Sahib, Missionary Ottawa East Jama'at.

Media was also present for this event. An article was published in the Ottawa Citizen providing coverage and photos of the event. Similarly, I had an opportunity to give a radio interview to CityNews related to our event and what it means to be a Canadian immigrant and celebrating Canada Day.

Altogether, there were about 700 people in attendance, including Jama'at members, neighbors and dignitaries.



# ATFAL SPORTS CAMP DURING 'ASHRA SALAT

JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup> – JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> 2022 AT MASJID  
MUBARAK, BRAMPTON

Umair Khan, Missionary Brampton West

## BACKGROUND

Brampton West Jama'at was exploring new ways to attract Jama'at members to the Mosque for Salat in congregation and increase attendance for 'Ashra Salat (June 3<sup>rd</sup> – June 12<sup>th</sup>) at Mubarak Mosque Brampton.

It was suggested to utilize the Mosque gym, parking lot, adjacent playground and soccer field to organize a sports camp for Atfal close to Salat time and encourage parents and children to pray in Mosque at the end of the sports camp, especially when parents come to pick up children.

Missionaries from Brampton West (Murabbi Ali Raza & myself) coordinated with Regional Nazim Atfal Haris Bajwa and Secretary Tarbiyyat of Brampton West Imarat, Waseem Ahmad Malik, to coordinate the camp. A team of volunteers of approximately 10 Khuddam teamed up with both missionaries to help coordinate the camp.

Various sports equipment and refreshments were purchased prior to the camp by the Regional Nazim Atfal and his team.

Announcements and flyers for the sports camp were circulated to Jama'at members in advance through various platforms.

## THE SPORTS CAMP

The sports camp was organized for 8 days starting on Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup> and ending on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>. It was held from 7 pm – 9 pm each evening. An average of 90 Atfal attended the camp regularly throughout the 8 days of camp.

As part of the sports camp, the missionaries also held question and answer session covering various topics from Salat, life devotion, and social issues that Atfal face in schools.

Both missionaries, along with Khuddam volunteers, also coached and trained Atfal in various sports to increase friendship with Atfal. Atfal were divided into groups and given team leaders from Khuddam volunteers to help organize the teams.

Every day, at the end of sports camp, Atfal had refreshments and then prepared for Salat, which was the real highlight of the sports camp: to pray in congregation.

Al-Hamdo lillah, Salat attendance for Maghrib and 'Isha prayers increased manifold with approximately 150 more worshippers.

## CONCLUSION

Atfal were encouraged to continue coming to congregational Salat at the mosque with their parents, even after the camp.

The feedback from Atfal and parents was very positive and encouraging and all the volunteers also enjoyed working together and making this camp possible.

Atfal also had a chance to make new friends at the Mosque and an environment of brotherhood was visible throughout this camp and 'Ashra Salat.

It is hoped that the camp was successful in inclining hearts of our future generations with love of the Mosque and prayers in congregation, alongside their friends and brothers in faith.







The feedback from Atfal and parents was very positive and encouraging and all the volunteers also enjoyed working together and making this camp possible.



# KIDS ZONE

## TRIVIA

1. What is the name of our religion?
2. What are the 6 Articles of Faith?
3. Name some Attributes of Allah.
4. Name the Angel of Allah responsible for Divine revelation.
5. Name some Prophets of Allah.
6. Name some Books of Allah.
7. What is the Day of Judgement?
8. What is the first matter Allah will ask us about on the Day of Judgement?

Trivia Answers:  
1. Islam  
2. To believe in: Allah, Angels, Books, Prophets, Day of Judgement, decree of Allah (Master)  
3. Rabul'alameen (Lord), Ar-rahman (Gracious), Ar-rahim (Merciful), Malik (Master)  
4. Jibrael (Gabriel)  
5. Adam, Nuh, Ibrahim, Yousuf, Musa  
6. Torah, Injeel, Qur'an, Zabur  
7. The next life; the day of accountability for all our actions and deeds  
8. Salat [daily prayers]



## PILLARS OF ISLAM [ACTS OF WORSHIPS]

### FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Kalima Shahada: "There is none worthy of \_\_\_\_\_ except Allah; Muhammad is His \_\_\_\_\_."
2. Salat: offering the 5 daily prayers that are called: \_\_\_\_\_, Zuhr, 'Asr, Maghrib, 'Isha
3. Fasting: not eating from dawn to dusk in the month of \_\_\_\_\_ for the sake of Allah.
4. \_\_\_\_\_: Paying a fix amount on your savings for the poor.
5. Hajj: taking a journey for a pilgrimage to the \_\_\_\_\_ in Makkah.

Answers:  
1. Worship; Messenger  
2. Fajr  
3. Ramadan  
4. Zakat  
5. Ka'ba

## CHALLENGE: MEMORIZE THIS HADITH:

إِنَّمَا الْأَعْمَالُ بِالنِّيَّاتِ

Deeds are judged by their motives.

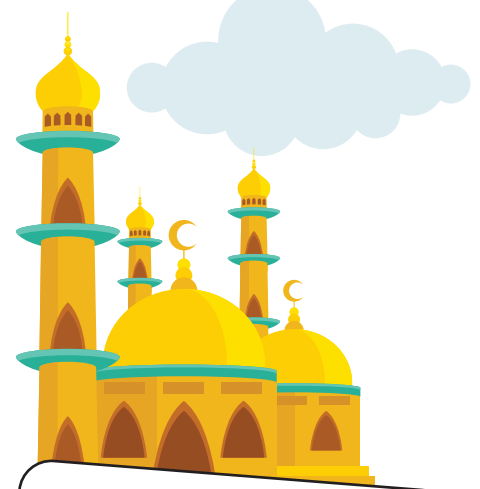




## ARTICLES OF FAITH & PILLARS OF ISLAM

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

JUDGEMENT DAY	PROPHETS	FASTING	HAY
ANGELS	DECREE	KALIMA	
ALLAH	BOOKS	NAMAZ	
ZAKAT			



## DID YOU KNOW?

There are 114 chapters in the Holy Qur'an.  
The longest chapter is Surah Al-Baqarah  
and the shortest is Surah Al-Kausar.

# AHMADIYYA GAZETTE CANADA

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ESSAY COMPETITION

For its 50-year celebration, the Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada is holding a special essay competition. This competition is open to all members of the Jamā'at. Participants will be according to two groups:

### ENGLISH TOPICS:

#### GROUP A (Atfal/Nasirat)

- Blessings of Khilafat
- Love for Khilafat

#### GROUP B (Khuddam, Lajna, Ansar)

- Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya: The Solution to Global Unrest
- Divine Support of Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya
- Obedience to Khilafat

### FRENCH TOPICS:

#### GROUP A (Atfal/Nasirat)

- Bénédiction du Califat
- Amour du Califat

#### GROUP B (Khuddam, Lajna, Ansar)

- Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya: la solution aux troubles mondiaux
- Soutien divin du Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya
- Obéissance envers le Califat

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Participants must write an essay on only one (1) of the essay topics provided.
2. For participants from Group A (Atfal and Nasirat), the essay should be 2 to 3 pages [single-spaced; 12 pt., Times New Roman font for English & French; 18 pt., Jameel Noori Nastaliq font for Urdu]
3. For participants from Group B (Khuddam, Lajna and Ansar), the essay should be 4 to 6 pages [single-spaced; 12 pt., Times New Roman font for English & French; 16 pt., Jameel Noori Nastaliq font for Urdu]
4. Each essay should be written and submitted by a single author. Collaborative essays will not be accepted in the competition.
5. All entries must be submitted by 11:59 pm EST on October 31, 2022 at [editor@ahmadiyyagazette.ca](mailto:editor@ahmadiyyagazette.ca). Late submissions will not be accepted in the competition.
6. The essay should be submitted in both Microsoft Word/Urdu InPage and PDF formats.
7. Each essay must contain participant's name, email address, phone number, Jamaat and member code, and auxiliary organization in the header
8. The essay must be the sole creation and original work of that person. No previously published work will be accepted. All essays submitted will be closely checked for plagiarism with entries disqualified if found to be plagiarised.
9. The decision of the judges will be final.
10. All references in the essay must be clearly and correctly cited; block quotations should not be longer than 5 lines

Group A: Atfal & Nasirat  
Group B: Khuddam, Lajna & Ansar



OPEN UNTIL  
**31 OCT, 2022**  
11:59 PM EST

### LANGUAGES:

The competition will be held in 3 languages: English, Urdu, and French

### PRIZES:



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GIFT VALUE



**\$100**  
GIFT VALUE

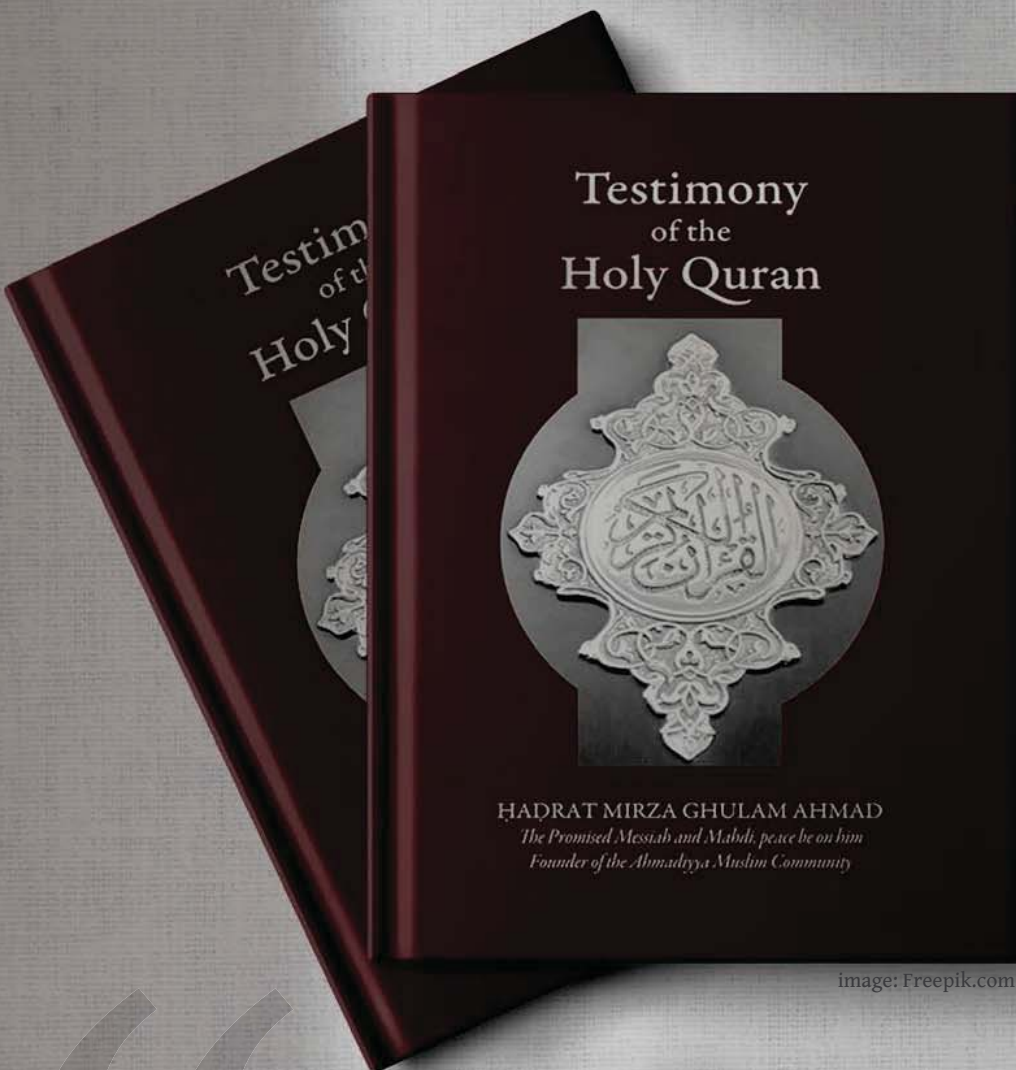


image: Freepik.com

# TESTIMONY OF THE HOLY QUR'AN

REGARDING THE ADVENT OF  
THE PROMISED MESSIAH IN  
THE LATTER DAYS

God Almighty says that He will continue sending Khulafa' of this Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, from time to time. And the word khalifah has been chosen to imply that they will be successors to the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and will partake of his blessings, as occurred in earlier times. They will spread the Faith and establish peace after fear; that is, they will appear at such times as when Islam will be rife with schisms. And whosoever defies them after their coming will be depraved and rebellious." (p. 69)

In Testimony of the Holy Qur'an, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup> of Qadian enumerates the Signs of Latter Days as described by the Holy Qur'an and demonstrates how the prophecies regarding the advent of the Promised Messiah are fulfilled in his person. He also explains the vital position of the Hadith in Islam and shows that these, too, inform us of the appearance of a reformer in this very age, making it incumbent upon today's Muslims to recognize their Imam.

In short, the topics covered in this book comprise the foundational arguments for one of the core tenets of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community; namely, that the ahadith prophesying the advent of the Latter Day Messiah are indeed reliable and are supported by Qur'anic testimony.

Available on [alislam.org](http://alislam.org)



# Social Media

Selection of Extracts from Pronouncements of Hazrat  
Khalifatul Masih V (May Allah be his Helper)

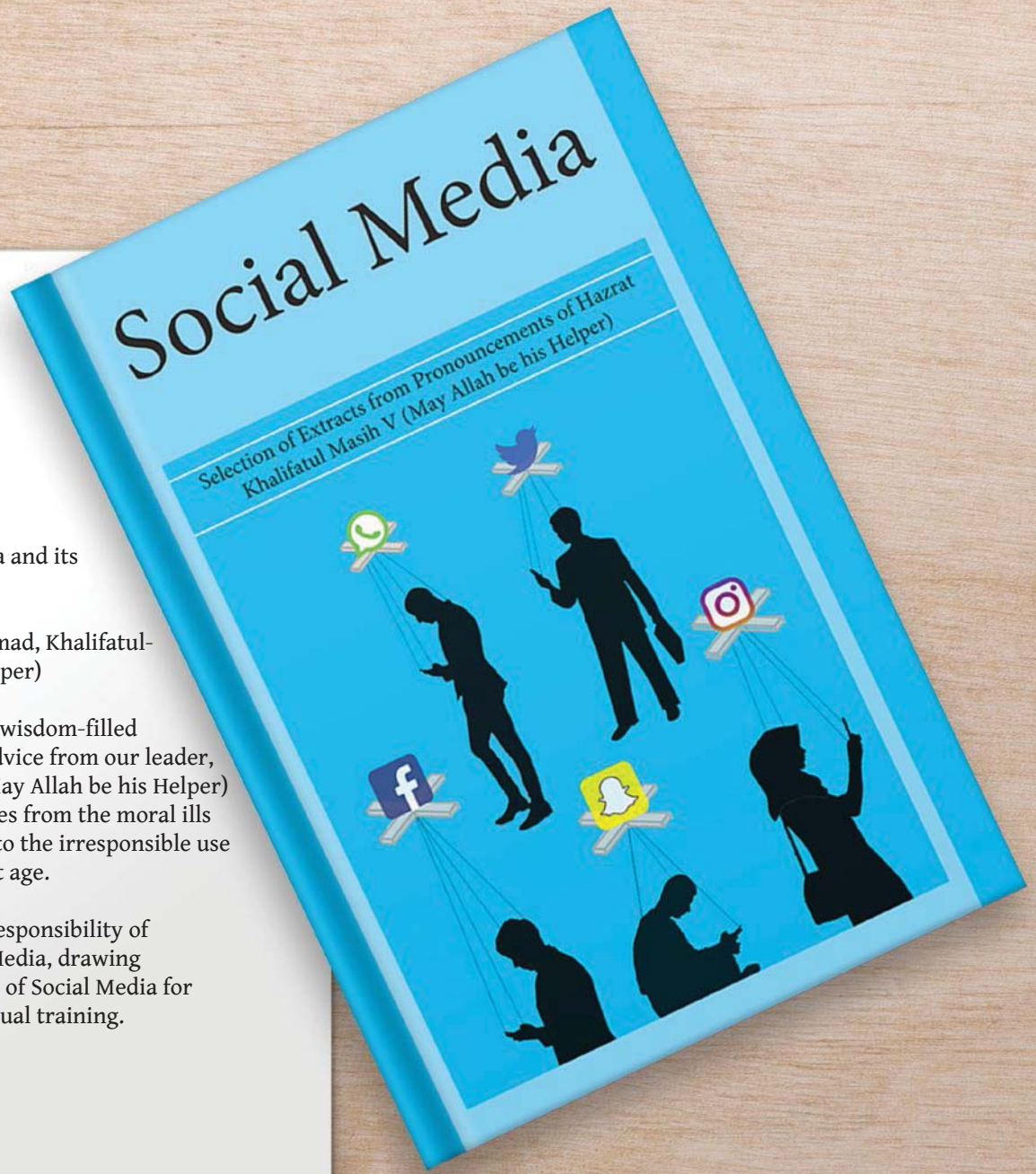
## Social Media

Issues Related to Social Media and its  
Resolution Proposed

by Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-  
Masih V (may Allah be his Helper)

This book is a compilation of wisdom-filled  
exhortations and beautiful advice from our leader,  
Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (May Allah be his Helper)  
on ways to safeguard ourselves from the moral ills  
spreading in the society due to the irresponsible use  
of Social Media in the current age.

This book also presents the responsibility of  
Ahmadis while using Social Media, drawing  
attention to the judicious use of Social Media for  
intellectual, moral, and spiritual training.



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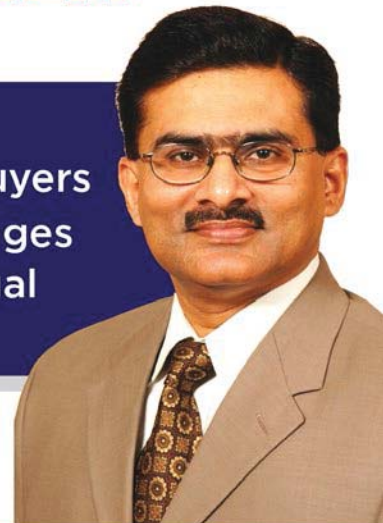


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