



# AHMADIYYA Gazette

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CANADA 




**“Do not consider this convention to be like ordinary human assemblies”**

(The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>)



## The Purpose of Attending Jalsa Salana

Advising the attendees of Jalsa Salana, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> said:

“It should always be borne in mind that the purpose for which we have gathered here is very lofty; it is to quench our spiritual thirst, to increase our spiritual knowledge, to learn the ways in which we can fulfil the rights owed to God and the rights owed to His creation. In order to achieve this, at the very least, we will have to sacrifice our emotions and seek help from Allah the Almighty... Thus, during these days, try to engage in prayers and the remembrance of Allah.”

(Friday Sermon, August 5, 2022; *Al Hakam*, September 2, 2022, p. 15, col. 4)





**AHMADIYYA GAZETTE CANADA**  
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## KIDS ZONE



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## ABBREVIATIONS OF SALUTATIONS

- sa** *Sallallahu alaihi wa Sallam* — Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!  
Usage: Salutation written after the name of the Holy Prophet Muhammad
- as** *Alaihis Salam / Alaihas Salam* — Peace be upon him/her!  
Usage: Salutation written after names of Prophets other than the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>as</sup> and pious women prior to the era of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>as</sup>
- ra** *Radhiallahu anhu / anha / anhum* — May Allah be pleased with him/her/them!  
Usage: Salutation written after names of Companions of the Holy Prophet<sup>as</sup> and Companions of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>
- rh** *Rahimahullahu / Rahimahallah* — May Allah have mercy upon him/her!  
Usage: Salutation written after the names of deceased, pious Muslims who are not Companions
- aa** *Ayyadahullahu Taala bi Nasrihil Aziz* — May Allah be his Helper!  
Usage: Salutation written after the name of Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>

# PEARLS OF

## THE HOLY QUR'AN

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful*

O ye who believe, be mindful of your duty to Allah and keep company with the righteous. (9:119)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَكُونُوا مَعَ  
الصَّادِقِينَ ﴿١١٩﴾

## HADITH

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مُجِيدٌ

*O Allah! Bless Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> and the people of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>,  
and bestow grace and salutations, for verily You are the Praiseworthy, the Majestic.*

Hazrat Abu Hurairah<sup>ra</sup> reported that the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> said, “Allah, the Blessed and Exalted, has mobile (squads) of angels, who have no other work (to attend to but) to follow the assemblies of *ziker* (remembrance) and when they find such assemblies in which there is remembrance (of Allah), they sit in them and some of them surround the others with their wings till the space between them and the sky of the world is fully covered, and when they disperse (after the assembly of remembrance is adjourned), they go upward to heaven and Allah, the Exalted and Glorious, asks them, although He is best informed about them: ‘Where have you come from?’ They say: ‘We come from Your servants upon the earth who had been glorifying You, extolling Your greatness, professing Your oneness, praising You, and begging of You.’ He would say: ‘What do they beg of Me?’ They would say: ‘They beg of You Your Paradise.’ He would say: ‘Have they seen My Paradise?’ They would say: ‘No, our Lord.’ He would say: ‘(How would they be) if they were to see My Paradise?’ They would say: ‘They seek Your protection.’ He would say: ‘Against what do they seek My protection?’ They would say: ‘Our Lord, from the Hell-Fire.’ He would say: ‘Have they seen My Fire?’ They would say: ‘No.’ He (the Lord) would say: ‘(How would they be) if they were to see My Fire?’ They would say: ‘They beg forgiveness of You.’ He would say: ‘I grant pardon to them, and confer upon them what they ask for and grant them protection against which they seek protection.’ They (the angels) would again say: ‘Our Lord, there is one amongst them—such and such sinful servant—who happened to pass by (that assembly) and sat there along with them.’ He would say: ‘I also grant him pardon, for they are a people whose fellows are in no way unfortunate.’” (*Sahih Muslim*)

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ قَالَ ” إِنَّ لِلَّهِ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى مَلَائِكَةً سَيَّارَةً فَضَلًّا يَتَّبِعُونَ مَجَالِسَ الذِّكْرِ فَإِذَا وَجَدُوا مَجْلِسًا فِيهِ ذِكْرٌ قَعَدُوا مَعَهُمْ وَحَفَّ بَعْضُهُمْ بَعْضًا بِأَجْنِحَتِهِمْ حَتَّى يَمْلَأُوا مَا بَيْنَهُمْ وَبَيْنَ السَّمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا فَإِذَا تَفَرَّقُوا عَرَجُوا وَصَعِدُوا إِلَى السَّمَاءِ. قَالَ فَيَسْأَلُهُمُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِهِمْ مِنْ أَيْنَ جِئْتُمْ فَيَقُولُونَ جِئْنَا مِنْ عِنْدِ عِبَادِكَ فِي الْأَرْضِ يُسَبِّحُونَكَ وَيُكَبِّرُونَكَ وَيُهَلِّلُونَكَ وَيَحْمَدُونَكَ وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ. قَالَ وَمَاذَا يَسْأَلُونِي قَالُوا يَسْأَلُونَكَ جَنَّتِكَ. قَالَ وَهَل رَأَوْا جَنَّتِي قَالُوا لَا أَيْ رَبِّ. قَالَ فَكَيْفَ لَوْ رَأَوْا جَنَّتِي قَالُوا وَيَسْتَجِيرُونَكَ. قَالَ وَمِمَّ يَسْتَجِيرُونِي قَالُوا مِنْ نَارِكَ يَا رَبِّ. قَالَ وَهَل رَأَوْا نَارِي قَالُوا لَا. قَالَ فَكَيْفَ لَوْ رَأَوْا نَارِي قَالُوا وَيَسْتَغْفِرُونَكَ. قَالَ فَيَقُولُ قَدْ غَفَرْتُ لَهُمْ فَأَعْطَيْتُهُمْ مَا سَأَلُوا وَأَجْرْتُهُمْ مِمَّا اسْتَجَارُوا. قَالَ فَيَقُولُونَ رَبِّ فِيهِمْ فُلَانٌ عَبْدٌ خَطَاءٌ إِنَّمَا مَرَّ فَجَلَسَ مَعَهُمْ قَالَ فَيَقُولُ وَلَهُ غَفَرْتُ هُمْ الْقَوْمُ لَا يَشْقَى بِهِمْ جَلِيسُهُمْ “.

# WISDOM

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

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### Primary Purpose of this Convention

“The primary purpose of this Convention is to enable every sincere individual to personally experience religious benefits; that they may enhance their knowledge and, through the grace and ability bestowed upon them by Allah the Exalted, their understanding of Allah may progress. Among its secondary benefits is that meeting each other will promote familiarity among all brothers, and the fraternal ties within this Community will strengthen.”

(*Majmu'ah Ishtiharat*, vol. 1, p. 360, 2019 ed.)

“The desire and true purpose of the Jalsa was that the members of our Community, through repeated meetings [with me], should somehow achieve such a change in themselves that their hearts become fully inclined towards the hereafter, and the fear of God should develop within them; and that they should become for others an example of piety, righteousness, virtue, forbearance, tenderness of heart, mutual love, and brotherhood; and they should develop in themselves humility, hospitality, and integrity, and embrace with zeal the carrying out of religious campaigns.”

(*Testimony of the Holy Qur'an*, p. 149)

### Not an Ordinary Convention

“Do not consider this convention to be like ordinary human assemblies. This is a matter that is purely founded upon Divine assistance and the support of Islam. God, the Exalted, has laid the foundation stone of this Movement with His own hands and, for this purpose, has prepared nations which will soon enter it.”

(*Majmu'ah Ishtiharat*, vol. 1, p. 361, 2019 ed.)

### Prayers for Attendees of the Annual Convention

“I conclude with the prayer that everyone who travels to attend this Convention, which is for the sake of Allah, may Allah, the Exalted, be with him; reward him in abundant measure; have mercy on him; ease up for him his circumstances of hardship and anxiety; and eliminate his anguish and grief. May He grant him freedom from every hardship and lay open for him the ways of achieving his cherished goals, and raise him up, on the Day of Judgment, among those of His servants who are the recipients of His blessings and mercy. May He be their Guardian in their absence until after their journey comes to an end.

“O Allah! O Sublime One and Bestower of bounties, the Ever Merciful and One Who Resolves all problems, do accept all these prayers, and grant us victory over our opponents with shining signs, because You alone have all the prowess and power. Amen! Amen!”

(*Majmu'ah Ishtiharat*, vol. 1, p. 361–2)

# GEMS OF GUIDANCE

from the Friday Sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!)

NOTE: Given below are brief, selected points from the Friday Sermons of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>. Readers are encouraged to directly benefit from the complete Friday Sermons of Huzoor<sup>aa</sup>, which are available on [alislam.org](http://alislam.org).



1.

MARCH 3, 2023

## The Holy Qur'an: A Book to Unite All People

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> elaborated upon the uniqueness of the Holy Qur'an. He quoted the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, who stated that the Holy Qur'an is a complete and universal book. In earlier times, there were fewer people and therefore teachings were sent for them. Then, as the number of people grew and people spread out in different parts of the world, specific teachings were revealed for those nations. Further, as the human race developed and the means of mutual interaction grew, God sent a universal teaching for all people. This teaching was the Holy Qur'an, which came to unite the entire world. Unlike previous teachings which were sent for specific peoples, the Holy Qur'an was revealed as a universal book, in order to unite all people.

### Four Distinct Qualities of the Holy Qur'an

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> elaborated upon four qualities of the Holy Qur'an.

The first distinctive feature of the Holy Qur'an is its proficiency and eloquence. Another feature is that all of the stories it relates are prophecies. The third distinguishing feature of the Holy Qur'an is that it possesses the means of taking human nature to its highest form. The fourth distinguishing feature of the Holy Qur'an is that it takes one who truly follows its teachings so near to God to the point they are able to converse with God, and they achieve complete certainty in faith.

2.

MARCH 10, 2023

## Status and Glory of the Holy Qur'an

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> continued mentioning the blessings and virtues of the Holy Qur'an through the sayings of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. The proficiency and beauty of the Holy Qur'an is such that even the most prolific scholars of the Arabic language could not produce so much as one line matching the eloquence of the Holy Qur'an. In fact, ever since the Holy Qur'an was revealed, the challenge has been presented to the world to produce something even remotely comparable to the Holy Qur'an. However, none have been able to present anything.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> further stated that the literary composition of the Holy Qur'an, i.e., the order of topics and the order of its lines is absolutely perfect, and it is this very order which cannot be replicated. Also, this Divine literary structure enables a true and complete understanding of the Holy Qur'an's meanings and verities. No other scripture possesses the miraculous combinations of proficiency, truth, and wisdom. These unique attributes shine bright like the sun, and possess a distinct power within them from every perspective. This being the case is clear proof that these words are from God, because such a combination cannot be perfected by any human.

At the end, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> announced that he would lead the funeral prayers of 4 devotees, including 25-year-old Zahid Hassan, who was martyred in Bangladesh, and Chaudhary Javaid Ahmad Bismil of Canada.

# 3.

MARCH 17, 2023

## Unique Features of the Holy Qur'an

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> quoted the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> who said that Allah the Almighty has Himself promised to safeguard the Holy Qur'an. This means that when the teachings of the Holy Qur'an are misunderstood or misinterpreted, Allah the Almighty will appoint someone who will spread the true teachings of the Qur'an. In accordance with this promise, Allah the Almighty sent the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> stated that it is vital for us to look at the state of our time. The *Dajjal* (antichrist) is trying to sway the world from faith, and the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> has arrived to combat this entity. Thus, instead of laying blame on him, the people must realize the need of the hour.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> has explained that the purpose of the Holy Qur'an is to transform us from animals to humans, and from mere humans to moral human beings. Furthermore, it transforms us from a state of morality to spirituality.

# 4.

MARCH 24, 2023

## The Promised Messiah & Mahdi

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> explained the significance of the titles "Promised Messiah" and "Mahdi", in light of the writings of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad<sup>as</sup>, the Promised Messiah, who said that the latter-day Messiah was to bear two resemblances: resemblance to Jesus<sup>as</sup> on account of which he would be called the "Messiah", and resemblance to the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, on account of which he would be called the "Mahdi". Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> explained that it is necessary to accept the claim of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> as he has been accompanied with innumerable signs, including the acceptance of prayers.

For example, once, a boy was bitten by a rabid dog and it was determined that nothing could be done for him—his death was certain. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> prayed profusely and with great pain for him. Such a state of fervour overcame the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> that his prayers manifested in the miraculous improvement of the boy and he completely recovered within a matter of days. Thus, it became clear that this illness was not meant to make him perish, rather, it was an opportunity to display the majesty of God.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> further quoted the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, who cited the sign of Dr. John Alexander Dowie, who perished through a prayer duel with the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> explained that the ultimate result of accepting the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> would be the universal superiority of the Muslims and Islam.

# 5.

MARCH 31, 2023

## Ramadan and the Holy Qur'an

In this Friday Sermon, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> mentioned the importance and status of the Holy Qur'an in connection with the holy month of Ramadan. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said that according to some narrations, the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> received the first Qur'anic revelation on the 24<sup>th</sup> of Ramadan. It is also recorded that during this month, the angel Gabriel would go over the Holy Qur'an with the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>. Thus, especially during this month, we should focus on reciting and listening to the Holy Qur'an and its commentary. Programs in this regard are also available on MTA which everyone should benefit from.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> also quoted the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> who said that the Holy Qur'an has been called a 'reminder' because it reminds one of their inner capacity and qualities. The Holy Qur'an reminds one of their hidden capabilities that should manifest at different instances, such as kindness, bravery, anger, and contentment. The Holy Qur'an reminds us of these natural qualities which we possess and regulates them appropriately, in order to maximize them and reach their full potential.

At a time when immoral and unnatural laws are being legalized and human nature is being distorted, it is necessary to ponder over the Holy Qur'an, as it can save young and old from the degradation being promulgated by society under the pretence of 'freedom'.

# 6.

APRIL 7, 2023

## Islam: The Perfect Religion

In his Friday Sermon on April 7, 2023, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> mentioned that God has bestowed a great favour upon Muslims by perfecting their faith, and Islam is the only religion to make this claim. The final faith sent by God is Islam, and if one desires to attain the pleasure of God, then they can do so only by adhering to the teachings of Islam.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> quoted the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, who stated that the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> was the complete and perfect Prophet, and therefore, the complete and perfect teaching was revealed to him. There are some who allege that if this is the case, then what was the purpose or need for the advent of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>? The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> himself responded to this question, explaining that, had Muslims truly been following the teachings of Islam, then there would have been no need for his advent. However, a glance at the state of the world demonstrates that manifestation of a reformer was absolutely necessary. In fact, this state of affairs was prophesied by the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> himself: a reformer would be sent to the world when it reached such a chaotic state.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> further stated that the Holy Qur'an outlines all the dos and don'ts that are necessary for humankind. The Holy Qur'an has pre-emptively outlined all the evils which can arise, so that people may avoid falling into them subconsciously. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said that in the education system today, young children are being taught matters which are beyond their scope of understanding, about relations and issues which they should only learn after the age of maturity. Parents and even educational institutions are now taking notice that some teachers are passing all boundaries and this is detrimental to children. Hence, this is the difference between a Divine teaching and worldly teachings. The Holy Qur'an presents teachings for all, and also prescribes the time when those teachings apply.



# 7.

APRIL 14, 2023

## There Is No God but Allah

In his Friday Sermon dated April 14, 2023, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> elaborated on the Oneness of Allah the Almighty. He presented a quote of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> regarding 2:165:

“Verily, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and in the alternation of night and day, and in the ships which sail in the sea with that which profits men, and in the water which Allah sends down from the sky and quickens therewith the earth after its death and scatters therein all kinds of beasts, and in the change of the winds, and the clouds pressed into service between the heaven and the earth—are indeed Signs for the people who understand.”

In this verse, through the law of nature, God Almighty has stated the fact that there is no god but Allah, which clearly points towards the fact that there is a single Creator and Intelligent Designer Who set this law of nature in motion.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> further stated that if the mere utterance of *la ilaha illallah* (‘there is none worthy of worship except Allah’) was enough to admit a person into Paradise, then there would be no need for action and, God forbid, the Shariah would be in vain. However, this is not the case. One cannot enter Paradise without action and implementation, until one embodies the requirements associated with *la ilaha illallah*.



## 8.

APRIL 21, 2023

### **Strive to Achieve Righteousness**

In this Friday Sermon, Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> said that the month of Ramadan has passed. Many spent Ramadan in worship, making efforts to bring about change within themselves, but were not able to implement their plans as they wished. If our Ramadan did not go exactly as we planned, or as a believer's Ramadan should be spent, we should still strive in the remaining time left in Ramadan to pray that Allah the Almighty covers our shortcomings and grants us the ability to live our lives in the manner that Allah the Almighty has ordained.

Today, if we vow in our prayers that after this Ramadan, we will continue to elevate the standard of our virtue; will strive to increase our connection with God; until the next Friday, we will pray solely for the sake of God; that until the next Friday, we will strive to give precedence to the faith over worldly matters; and until the next Ramadan, we will continue to strive in the efforts we hoped to make during this Ramadan, then these are the ways in which we can adopt true virtue.

When our worship and our actions will be solely for the sake of God, then Allah, Who is the Most Kind, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful, will surely bestow the blessings which we strove for, even in a limited way, during this Ramadan. The essence is righteousness and continuously striving to fulfil the commandments of God whilst fearing Him.



THE ISLAMIC DECLARATION OF FAITH

"There is none worthy of worship except Allah;  
Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> is the Messenger of Allah"

## 9.

APRIL 28, 2023

### **Patience, Prayers, Steadfastness & Humility**

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> said that some people write to him and even present various arguments to try and prove that in light of the difficulties being faced by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at in Pakistan and various other countries, Ahmadis should not just remain patient, but should also retaliate.

Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said that some people even cite certain examples of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup> and say that he gave permission to retaliate; however, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> made it clear that these interpretations were wrongly ascribed to Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih II<sup>ra</sup>. He then proceeded to provide an enlightening exposition on the true concept of patience and steadfastness.

It should be borne in mind that patience should not be the result of any weakness or worldly fear; rather, patience should be solely for the sake of God and in accordance with His commandment. We enjoin patience only because it is the commandment of God Almighty. We must patiently endure temporary difficulties for the greater and long term good of the Jama'at.

# Rays of Light

The Enlightening Words of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!)

“

The key to peace is to stop cruelty and oppression wherever it occurs, with justice and equality...This will only happen when the people of the world come to recognize their Creator.

— Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>



## PERSECUTION CANNOT HINDER THE PROGRESS OF AHMADIYYAT

On May 24, 2013, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> delivered his weekly Friday Sermon from the Baitun Nur Mosque in Calgary, Canada. In a direct message to those who continued to persecute and target Ahmadi Muslims, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said:

“Remember that our Lord, our Friend, is that God Who is the Possessor of All Powers. He will never allow you to succeed. The progress of Islam is now destined to take place through the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. The flag of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> of Islam will now be raised in the world through the servants of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>... So no effort of yours, and no misdeed or attack that you carry out, even if it be with the help of any worldly power, will be able to stop Khilafat-e-Ahmadiyya from achieving its purpose, nor will any such effort be able to stop the progress of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama’at.”

(SOURCE: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2013/05/muslim-community-celebrate-khilafat-day/>)

## ESTABLISHING INTERNATIONAL PEACE

During his visit of Canada in 2016, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> delivered a historic address at an event organized at York University entitled “Justice in an Unjust World”. Beautifully explaining how peace can be established, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> said:

“At the United Nations it should not be that certain countries wield undue power and influence, or that the permanent members of the Security Council care only for their own interests and utilize their veto power even where it is in conflict with the interests of the majority. Rather, all members of the United Nations should work together and fulfil the covenant of trust upon which the institution was founded—to maintain the peace and security of the world.”

He further explained:

“If we truly want peace in our time then we must act with justice. We must value equality and fairness. As the Prophet of Islam (peace be upon him) so beautifully stated, we must love for others, what we love for ourselves. We must pursue the rights of others

## DISTINCTION OF A BELIEVER & ACCEPTANCE OF PRAYERS

On August 5, 2018, at the concluding address of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Jalsa Salana United Kingdom, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> thoroughly outlined how to enhance faith:

“If moral weaknesses and sins are not immediately arrested and continue to develop, they can greatly damage and weaken the society. For example, some people claim benefits from the government under false pretence. This can only harm others and weaken society itself. Such falsehood and immorality is completely against Islam.”

He continued:

“It is a believer’s distinction that he stops others from evil and unnecessary speech. But before stopping others, it is necessary that he make his own state so pure that he influences others towards righteousness. He or she must improve their own moral state before guiding others. A person can only wield influence over others when he or she sets a positive example for them to follow.”


Regarding the acceptance of prayers, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> explained:

“For prayer to be accepted by Allah Almighty, it is necessary to embody humility, to consider oneself as nothing, and to reach the pinnacle of meekness.”

He further said:

“We see that some people pray, yet, at the same time, they continue to commit evil deeds. This shows that they lack the spirit of earnest prayer and sincerity. They do not pray properly with the spirit needed to succeed. They only pray as a ritual, touching their heads on the ground.”

(SOURCE: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2018/08/647000-people-join-ahmadiyya-muslim-community/>)



with the same zeal and determination that we pursue our own rights. We should broaden our horizons and look at what is right for the world, rather than what is only right for us. These are the means for peace in our age.”

(SOURCE: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2016/10/justice-in-an-unjust-world-head-of-ahmadiyya-muslim-community-delivers-historic-lecture-at-york-university/>)

Elaborating on the same topic at a reception held in his honour in Beverly Hills, LA, on May 11, 2013, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> stated:

“The key to peace is to stop cruelty and oppression wherever it occurs, with justice and equality. Only when this principle is followed will global peace develop. This will only happen when the people of the world come to recognize their Creator. It is my ardent hope and prayer that the entire world urgently comes to understand the needs of the time before it is too late.”

(SOURCE: <https://www.pressahmadiyya.com/press-releases/2013/05/head-ahmadiyya-muslim-jamaat-delivers-historic-address-southern-california/>)

# GUIDANCE FOR VOLUNTEERS & GUESTS OF JALSA SALANA



*The following extracts are taken from the Friday Sermon of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>, which he delivered on August 5, 2022, at the occasion of Jalsa Salana UK.*

## VOLUNTEERS

### Serve To Attain the Pleasure of Allah

I also wish to say to the volunteers that during the three days of Jalsa, they should serve the guests of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> with such passion, whereby they always understand and bear in mind that they are not serving in order to seek any sort of reward from their officers or the guests. In fact, they must serve these guests in order to attain the pleasure of Allah the Almighty.

They should follow the example of that companion and his wife who put their children to bed hungry and also remained hungry themselves in order to fulfil the due rights of their guest. They turned out the light and made it seem to their guest as if they were eating along with him. Allah the Almighty was so pleased with this act of theirs that He also informed the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> of it. The following day, the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> said to that companion, “Even Allah the Almighty smiled at your plan last night (of feeding the guest).”<sup>1</sup> Allah the Almighty was very pleased and smiled, and Allah the Almighty has mentioned people who offer such sacrifices in the Holy Qur’an. These are people who selflessly offer sacrifices and these are the people who are successful.

Hence, this was the manner in which the Companions extended their hospitality and served their guests. How fortunate are those who strive to do justice in serving their guests for the sake of attaining Allah the Almighty’s pleasure, and on the other hand, how fortunate are those guests who have hearkened to the call of the Imam of the Age and have come to listen to the words of Allah and His Messenger<sup>sa</sup>, with the hope of attaining the pleasure of Allah the Almighty.

Fortunate are all those volunteers who serve the guests coming for the sake of their faith, and do so solely in order to please Allah the Almighty.

### Control Your Emotions and Words

When there is a large number of attendees, there are usually people of various temperaments; some are quick to get angry, and at times, speak to the volunteers or demand something in a harsh manner. However, both male and female volunteers must ensure to never be harsh towards anyone. They should never respond harshly to someone who speaks harshly to them; instead they should respond with a smile. If they are able to fulfil their need, then they should do so, otherwise they should kindly and gently excuse themselves or take the individual to their superior officer who can tend to the guest’s need. Sometimes this can be very challenging, but it should be done in order to attain the pleasure of God Almighty. One should keep control over their emotions and their words.

*(Al Hakam, September 2, 2022, p. 15, column 1)*

### Treat Everyone Kindly

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> has provided guidance regarding the kind treatment of guests on various occasions. On one occasion, the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> said, “There are many guests who have come, some of whom you know; some you recognize and others whom you don’t. Hence, you ought to consider everyone to be worthy of respect and extend them your hospitality.”<sup>2</sup>

This principle should be kept in mind by every volunteer, especially those who are directly dealing with people and departments such as hospitality and dining in particular should adhere to this.

*(Al Hakam, September 2, 2022, p. 15, col. 2)*



Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> addressing attendees of Jalsa Salana Canada, 2016

## GUESTS

### Do Not Have Unreasonable Expectations

If the guests understand and adhere to the teachings of Islam whereby guests should not become an unnecessary burden upon their hosts, then this helps maintain an atmosphere of love and compassion. Problems arise when guests hold their hosts to wrong and unreasonable expectations. Hence, guests should not have unreasonable expectations so that the hosts and those tasked with taking care of the guests, and the guests themselves can remain at ease. Hence, always keep this in mind.

### Be Thankful to Volunteers

Those who are residing under the Jama'at's accommodations should be thankful to the volunteers, their Ahmadi brothers and sisters who, despite the positions they hold, have presented themselves to serve the guests.

### Food

Sometimes the food may not be to the guests' liking, although every Ahmadi knows the tradition of our Community whereby *aalu gosbt* [meat and potato curry] and *daal* [lentil soup] are generally prepared during the days of Jalsa. However, even if guests receive food which is not to their liking, they should still eat it happily. The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> has stated that whatever a guest is presented to eat by the host should be happily accepted.<sup>3</sup>

(*Al Hakam*, September 2, 2022, p. 15, col. 3)

### Exhibit High Moral Conduct

Exhibiting high moral conduct is not only the duty of volunteers, but also of every attendee. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> has said to the participants of Jalsa that they must exhibit good morals and take care of one another.<sup>4</sup>

All attendees should bear in mind that they have taken part in this Jalsa to quench their religious, intellectual and spiritual thirst. In order to fulfil this objective, it is incumbent to always remember the statement of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> that this Jalsa is held solely for the sake of God. Hence, never should one express impatience or enmity over trivial matters.

### Overlook Weaknesses

Volunteers are also human; if ever they commit a wrong, it should be overlooked, and this is a great way in which can reform their moral conduct. It is true that sometimes, a situation arises wherein something is said which incites another person's anger, either by the guests or the volunteers. However, high moral conduct demands that the matter should be overlooked and one should remove themselves from that situation so as to avoid increasing the conflict.

Such circumstances can come about amongst the youth, and so, it should always be borne in mind that the purpose for which we have gathered here is very lofty; it is to quench our spiritual thirst, to increase our spiritual knowledge, to learn the ways in which we can fulfil the rights owed to God and the rights owed to His creation. In order to achieve this, the least we will have to do is sacrifice our emotions and seek help from Allah the Almighty. When this passion rises forth, when tongues remain inclined towards the remembrance of Allah, when there is increased attention towards repentance and seeking forgiveness, then even if one is inconvenienced by another, they will react by pardoning and over-looking the grievance.

(*Al Hakam*, September 2, 2022, p. 15, col. 3-4)

### Listen to the Jalsa Proceedings

All the attendees should try to sit in the Jalsa Gah during the Jalsa proceedings and listen to the speeches. The speakers make a great effort in preparing their speeches, and one can benefit from them both in terms of gaining knowledge and spirituality. For this reason, do not only consider listening to those who deliver good speeches or speak well; instead, ponder over the significance of the topic and consider the extent of its benefits.

Normally, the speeches cover topics that are in need of the time, and if one listens carefully, then they can find the answers to many questions that come into their hearts. Thus, listen very attentively to the speeches.

(*Al Hakam*, September 2, 2022, pp. 15-16, col. 4)

### Endnotes

1. *Sabih al-Bukhari*, Kitab Manaqib al-Ansar, Hadith 3797
2. *Malfuzat*, vol. 6, p. 226
3. *Musnad Ahmad bin Hanbal*, vol. 5, p. 204, Hadith 15048, Alim-ul-Kutub, Beirut, 1998
4. *Shahadatul Qur'an*, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 6, p. 394



# Jalsa Salana Canada and Our Responsibilities

Lal Khan Malik, Amir Jama'at Canada

By the grace of Allah, Jalsa Salana Canada 2023 is being held July 14-16, 2023, at the International Centre in Mississauga, Insha'Allah, and all Canadian Ahmadis—men, women and children—are expected to participate in the Jalsa in large numbers, from far and wide.

By the grace of Allah, the system of Jalsa Salana established by the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> in 1891 has spread across the globe. It has been established in Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, and the Americas. There is no part of the world in which the Jalsa Salana is not being held. As a result of the sheer grace, mercy and unlimited bounties of Allah, the objectives for which the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> established this system are being fulfilled in a most magnificent manner. *Al-hamdu lillah!*

Members of the Jama'at wait an entire year and look forward to attending the Jalsa. They participate with full zeal and enthusiasm, and try to gain maximum benefits from Jalsa so that they can be recipients of the blessed prayers of Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> which he rendered for those who attend the Jalsa. I would like to draw the attention of Jama'at members towards the responsibilities, which fall upon them in regards to the Jalsa Salana.

## The Objectives of Jalsa Salana

Members of the Jama'at should not forget the first and foremost purpose of attending and participating in the Jalsa Salana. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> established the institution of Jalsa Salana for the following reason: “This gathering will be devoted to the exposition of such truths and spiritual insight as are necessary for the promotion of faith and certainty and spiritual understanding.” (*The Heavenly Decree*, p. 74)

He further said: “The primary purpose of this Convention is to enable every sincere individual to personally experience religious benefits; that they may enhance their knowledge and, through the grace and ability bestowed upon them by Allah the Exalted, their understanding of Allah may progress.” (*Majmu'ah Ishtibarat*, p. 360, 2019 ed.)

As such, members of the Jama'at should remember these objectives of Jalsa, and try their utmost to absorb the blessings and mercy of Allah in these days. The speeches that are delivered by the speakers at Jalsa are

a crucial means of acquiring its blessings. To listen attentively and act upon their presented teachings is the responsibility of every Ahmadi man, woman and child.

## Official Representative

This year, Syedna Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> has graciously appointed As-Syed Muhammad Sharif Odeh, Amir Jama'at Kababir, as the official representative of Markaz.

## Theme & Speeches of Jalsa Salana

The central theme of Jalsa Salana Canada 2023 is the “Oneness of God Almighty”. Scholars of the Jama'at will be speaking on the following topics:

- There is no god but Allah
- Purpose of Jalsa Salana
- Establishment of Universal Unity of God under the Directions of Khilafat”
- Atheism on Trial: Exposing the Inconsistencies and Follies of Arguments Against God
- It is not possible for you to love wealth as well as to love Allah
- The Life of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>: A Practical Reflection of the Unity of God
- The Promised Messiah's<sup>as</sup> Absolute Trust in Divine Help
- He Proves His Existence through His Divine Power
- Why Segregation? What is the Role of Men and Women in Society?
- Jihad of the Pen
- Qur'an: Guidance for the Ages
- Mental Illness and Its Solution in Islam
- Jihad of this Day: To Overcome Greed and Self-Interest
- Martyrs of Burkina Faso: The Shining Stars of Ahmadiyyat
- The Real Requirements for Honouring the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>

Members are also requested to listen to all of the speeches attentively and sincerely, and act upon the true teachings of Islam Ahmadiyyat that will be imparted in them.

## Bring About a Pious Change

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> has said, “And to the best of our ability we shall endeavour to supplicate at the threshold of the Most Merciful that He may draw them towards Him, may accept them and may bring about a pious change in them.” (*The Heavenly Decree*, p. 74).

To undergo this pious change and transformation of our inner condition, we need to make special arrangements to offer Salat regularly during the days of Jalsa Salana, and to keep reciting invoking blessings on the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, as well as other prayers, to enhance our level of righteousness and create this positive transformation within ourselves.

We should carefully examine the guidelines given by the Khulafa-e-Ahmadiyyat at the occasion of Jalsa, and particularly those given by Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>. Try to act upon and implement these guidelines as best as possible. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> has said, “Do not consider this convention to be like ordinary human assemblies.” (*Majmu’ah Isbtiharat*, vol. 1, p. 361, 2019 ed.)

The Jalsa is thus an excellent opportunity to undergo a pious and righteous change. As such, it does not behove an Ahmadi to waste time or engage in ordinary, worldly conversations instead of listening to the programs and speeches of Jalsa. I hope that we will all attend the Jalsa Salana in large numbers while keeping in mind these objectives of Jalsa and reap its full benefits, *Insha’Allah!*

## Important Guidelines for Jalsa Salana

We also have the intructions of Huzoor-e-Anwar<sup>aa</sup> before us regarding steps to be taken for security, “Always keep close watch of your surroundings, to your right, left and on your friends and those whom you know. This will itself be an effective means of security for the Jama’at.” Members of the Jama’at should especially keep this in mind.

Similarly, bring your Jama’at ID cards along with you and cooperate fully with the volunteers, even if you have to endure some difficulty. All these arrangements are made for your own safety and security, and can only be effective with your cooperation.

Likewise, give your full cooperation to the volunteers of all departments. It is a great distinction of the Ahmadiyya Jama’at that even if a child is on duty, everyone cooperates with him/her. This is the beauty of our system and also the secret to our success.

Sometimes, it is natural that in such large-scale arrangements, there may be certain shortcomings, weaknesses and mistakes. If this is the case, do not get angry or argue with the volunteers of Jalsa.

This is not only the Jalsa of volunteers and workers, rather it is the Jalsa of every member of the Jama’at. It is our collective responsibility to make the Jalsa a success. If you *can* fix a shortcoming in an appropriate manner, then you should do so; otherwise, draw the attention of the relevant volunteers in an appropriate and respectful manner.

If you have a good suggestion for the future, then please send it to me after the Jalsa.

We also have a large number of non-Ahmadi guests at the Jalsa and they should take back a good impression of us in every respect—be it of our morals, our dress, our character, our attendance at Jalsa, our

manner of walking, or our manner of sitting. In all aspects, we must demonstrate dignity and respect.

Women should fully observe *pardah*, keeping in view the Islamic teachings and sayings of the Khulafa.

During the days of Jalsa Salana, offer Salat in congregation at the Jalsa Gah, Baitul Islam Mosque and local Salat centres.

## General Responsibilities

During the days of Jalsa Salana, the number of visitors coming to Peace Village to offer Salat and to attend other programs increases significantly. As such, the following are some guidelines to keep in mind:

- Do not create any difficulties for the surrounding residents.
- Obey the traffic laws. Park only in designated areas and do not become a source of difficulty for anyone. Pedestrians should also obey traffic signals and not impede the traffic.
- Take extra care when it comes to cleanliness. If you see any garbage on the way, make sure to dispose of it.

May Allah enable all of us to fulfill our responsibilities in the best possible manner and render such services as are acceptable to Allah!

May our every action be for the sake of Allah and for the pleasure of His Khalifa! And may Jama’at Ahmadiyya Canada become a distinct Jama’at, which becomes a delight of eyes for the Khalifa of the time! Amen!

## Afsaran of Jalsa Salana Canada 2023

Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> has graciously approved the appointment of the following *afsaran* (officers) for Jalsa Salana Canada:

**AFSAR JALSA SALANA:** Rizwan Masood Mian

**AFSAR JALSA GAH:** Sheikh Abdul Wadood

**AFSAR KHIDMAT-E-KHALQ:** Tahir Ahmad

**AFSAR RABITA:** Aamir Mahmood Sheikh

May Allah the Almighty bless their appointment and enable them to serve in the best manner possible. Amen!

# Significance of Obligatory Financial Donations

Khalid Ahmad Naeem, National Secretary Mal (Finance)

I wish to remind all male and female earning members of the Jama'at to pay their obligatory donations (Chanda Aam or Wasiyyat and Chanda Jalsa Salana) according to the prescribed rates. These donations were stipulated by the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

Syedna Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) said: "Remember, Allah knows full well what you spend, what you pledge, and whatever is your income. Always try to clear your accounts with Him. To get a reward from Allah the Almighty, you must provide your budget according to your true income and make regular payments according to the prescribed rates, so that your spiritual condition improves and so you may excel in righteousness." (Friday Sermon, May 28, 2004)

I also wish to urge young male and female earning members (Khud-dam and Lajna) that they must participate in these obligatory donations and pay according to the prescribed rates.

It is not expected from Jama'at members who are the part of system of Wasiyyat—the *musian*—that they are not offering Chanda Wasiyyat as per the prescribed rates. They have promised with Allah that they will at least pay 10% of their take-home income as Chanda Wasiyyat. So, all *musian* are very humbly requested to ensure that their Chanda Wasiyyat and Chanda Jalsa Salana is according to the prescribed rates.

In a meeting with the National Majlis Amila of Jama'at Germany in 2009, Syedna Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V (may Allah be his Helper!) highlighted the importance of obligatory donations over all other donations, saying: "If someone is not paying Chanda Aam, no other Chanda (auxiliary, *tabrikat*, etc.) should be accepted from them."

In other words, Chanda Aam or Wasiyyat and Chanda Jalsa Salana have precedence over all other donations. It is necessary for all earning members to pay obligatory donations regularly as per the prescribed rates.

Therefore, all earning male and female members are requested to please contact your Secretary Finance and check your payments of obligatory donations, and in case of arrears, to pay them as early as possible.



## Expend your Efforts & Wealth for Islam

Farsi Couplets of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>

بکشید اے جوانان تا یہ دیں قوت شود پیدا  
بہار و رونق اندر روضہ ملت شود پیدا  
O lads! Expend your efforts so that Faith may  
be strengthened—

So that springtime and splendour may come  
about in the garden of the nation.

اگر دستِ عطا در نصرتِ اسلام بکشائید  
ہم از بہر شُما ناگہ یدِ قدرت شود پیدا  
If you open your generous hand for the help  
of Islam,  
Suddenly, the Hand of God will appear for  
you, as well.

ز بزلِ مال درِ راہش کسے مُغلسِ نے گردد  
خدا خود سے شود ناصر اگر ہمت شود پیدا  
No one ever became destitute by spending  
wealth in His cause;  
God Himself becomes your Helper—if you  
only show courage!

(A'ina-e-Kamalat-e-Islam, Ruhani Khaza'in, vol. 5, p. 2)



# The Importance of Gardening

Saadat Ahmad Joya, National Secretary Zira'at

Gardening and agriculture have always been important to human civilization. In fact, the Holy Qur'an itself speaks about the importance of cultivating the land and reaping its benefits. The Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> also emphasized the importance of growing vegetables and crops in numerous *ahadith*. In this brief article, we will explore the importance of growing vegetables and the relevance of Qur'anic verses and *hadith*.

The Holy Qur'an also emphasizes the importance of agriculture and encourages us to cultivate the land. In Surah Al-An'am, Allah the Almighty says:

وَهُوَ الَّذِي أَنْشَأَ جَنَّاتٍ مَّعْرُوشَاتٍ وَغَيْرِ مَعْرُوشَاتٍ وَالنَّخْلَ  
وَالرَّزَّازَ مُخْتَلِفًا أَلْوَانًا وَالزَّيْتُونَ وَالرُّمَّانَ مُتَشَابِهًا وَغَيْرَ  
مُتَشَابِهٍ كُلُوا مِنْ ثَمَرِهِ إِذَا أَثْمَرَ وَآتُوا حَقَّهُ يَوْمَ حَصَادِهِ  
وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ ﴿٦٤﴾

“And He it is Who brings into being gardens, trellised and untrellised, and the date-palm and cornfields whose fruits are of diverse kinds, and the olive and the pomegranate, alike and unlike. Eat of the fruit of each when it bears fruit, but pay His due on the day of harvest and exceed not the bounds. Surely, Allah loves not those who exceed the bounds.” (6:142)

This verse highlights the diversity of crops and encourages us to appreciate the different fruits and vegetables that the land produces. It also reminds us to give thanks to Allah and not to waste anything that He has provided.

In addition to the Qur'an, the *ahadith* of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> also emphasize the importance of agriculture and growing vegetables. In one *hadith*, the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> said: “If the Day of Resurrection comes while one of you has a seedling in his hand, let him plant it.”

This *hadith* encourages us to continue to cultivate the land and plant even in difficult times. It also highlights the importance of preserving our environment and the natural resources that Allah has provided us with.

Growing vegetables is not only important for our health but also for the environment. Vegetables are an essential part of a balanced diet, providing us with necessary vitamins and minerals. They are also a great source of dietary fiber,

which helps to regulate our digestion and maintain a healthy weight. By growing our vegetables, we can ensure that we are consuming fresh and organic produce that is free of harmful pesticides and chemicals.

Moreover, growing vegetables is an environmentally friendly way to reduce our carbon footprint. The production and transportation of food are major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, and by growing our vegetables, we can reduce the amount of energy needed to transport them to our homes. Additionally, growing vegetables helps to preserve biodiversity and protect our soil from erosion.

In conclusion, growing vegetables is not only important for our health and well-being, but it is also a way to preserve the environment and appreciate Allah's blessings. The Holy Qur'an and *hadith* encourage us to cultivate the land and appreciate the diversity of crops that it produces. By growing our vegetables, we can ensure that we are consuming fresh and organic produce while reducing our carbon footprint and preserving the natural resources that Allah the Almighty has provided us.



## Rasheeduddin Malik of Markham Jama'at Passes Away

Rasheeduddin Malik of Markham Jama'at passed away on April 2, 2023, at the age of 82. 'Surely, to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return!' (2:157)

He was the father of Naseeruddin Malik and Faseehuddin Malik of Markham Jama'at, and Rafiuddin Malik of the USA Jama'at. He was the eldest son of Malik Salahuddin Sahib, Darvesh-e-Qadian who had served as Private Secretary to Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> and also authored the book series "Ashab-e-Ahmad" on the Companions of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

Ahmadiyyat came to his family via his paternal great-grandfather, Hazrat Malik Barkat Ali<sup>ra</sup>, who accepted Ahmadiyyat in 1897/98. Both of his grandfathers, Hazrat Malik Niaz Muhammad<sup>ra</sup> (paternal) and Hazrat Hakim Din Muhammad<sup>ra</sup> (maternal) were also Companions of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

Hazrat Maulana Ghulam Rasool Rajeki<sup>ra</sup>, performed the Nikah of Rasheeduddin Malik. After praying, Hazrat Maulana Sahib gave the glad tiding of "many sons." Rasheeduddin Malik had three sons—a daughter was also born, who passed away in infancy, leaving behind only the "sons".

Rasheeduddin Malik had the honor of being an *Aseer-e-Rab-e-Maula* (prisoner for the sake of Allah). He was imprisoned twice in Pakistan, once in 1974 when Ahmadis were declared non-Muslim, and then again in 1984 for wearing a badge of the *kalimah tayyibah* (Islamic declaration of faith).

He was a zealous *Da'i Ilallah* (preacher) and would do whatever it took to spread the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat. He was so passionate and fearless in spreading the message of Ahmadiyyat that during his travels, he would have the Friday Sermon cassettes of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV<sup>th</sup> played in public buses in Pakistan in the mid-1980s, when there was great hostility against Ahmadis. He always made new contacts and took them to Jalsa Salana Canada, and arranged to have his Tabligh contacts watch Jalsa Salana UK and the International Bai'at on MTA at his home. He had the opportunity to serve the Jama'at in various capacities over many decades, including Qa'id Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Zaeem Ansarullah, and Secretary Tahrik-e-Jadid and Waqf-e-Jadid.

Rasheeduddin Malik was the most selfless person. He had a great spirit of helping people and did this tirelessly throughout his life. He helped settle many new families arriving in Canada. He did not drive, but went far and wide on buses and on foot to help people in need. After his demise, many people told his family members what he had done to help them, which even his family did not know.

He is survived by his wife, 3 sons, 8 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Treading in his footsteps, his sons and grandchildren serve the Jama'at in various capacities in Canada and the USA. The *Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada*'s editorial team offers its deepest condolences to his family. May Allah the Almighty grant the departed soul a place in the highest echelons of Paradise and give patience and fortitude to his family. Amen!



## Sad Demise of Zeynah Layali De Groef

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the sad demise of Zeynah Layali De Groef, aged 9, who passed away on March 16, 2023. 'Surely, to Allah we belong and to Him shall we return!' (2:157)

Zeynah was the daughter of Respected Nils Dr Groef and Maryam Nasreen De Groef of London South Jama'at. Zeynah was in the blessed scheme of Waqf-e-Nau. She was an organ donor and, through her donation, saved multiple lives. She regularly offered her prayers, had a deep love of Khilafat, and had also completed the entire recitation of the Holy Qur'an.

The editors of the *Ahmadiyya Gazette Canada* offer our sincere condolences to Zeynah's family, and we pray that Allah the Almighty may grant her an elevated status in Paradise and grant patience to her family. Amen!

# Mental Health and Islam

Luqman Ahmed, Missionary, Ottawa East Jama'at

The issues surrounding mental health are being increasingly highlighted over the last few years. An increasing number of experts continue to warn us that Canada and the world are in the grips of a mental health crisis that worsens our health and quality of life and even hurts economies.

Affiliated with the University of Toronto, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) is Canada's largest mental health teaching hospital. Some of the alarming facts it has provided on its website are as follows:<sup>1</sup>

- 450 million people struggle with mental illness worldwide
- In Canada, it impacts 6.7 million of us and one in two Canadians before the age of 40
- It prevents nearly 500,000 employed Canadians from attending work each week
- Economic burden of mental illness in Canada is an estimated \$51 billion per year
- Over 4,000 Canadians die by suicide every year— an average of 11 per day

In addition to modern medicine, therapeutic procedures and scientific innovations, governments around the world—including Canada—are providing more resources to tackle this issue. While making use of these resources and showing our gratitude, as Muslims, we also have the luxury of turning towards the words and commandments of God to find solutions to our problems.

We believe that the teachings of the Holy Qur'an and Islam are perfect and most beneficial for humanity. They contain guidelines for every facet of life, including our mental health. A few nuggets of Islamic knowledge are given below, with the hope that if they are understood in their true spirit, they open a new paradigm for us to understand the issues of mental health and become part of the solution.

Before proceeding further, it is important to add the disclaimer that these tips are not meant to be used as a substitute for professional help.

## Anxiety and Peace of Mind

Anxiety and restlessness are closely related to mental health challenges. While anxiety may also be seen as a normal human emotion when making any decision of significance, at a higher level, it interferes with a person's ability to lead a normal life. Islam teaches us that the remembrance of Allah can help mitigate

this challenge. Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَتَطْمَئِنُّ قُلُوبُهُمْ بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ  
أَلَا بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ تَطْمَئِنُّ الْقُلُوبُ ○

“Those who believe and whose hearts find comfort in the remembrance of Allah. It is only in the remembrance of Allah that hearts can find comfort.” (13:29)

The Holy Qur'an has also explained the reasoning and wisdom behind this concept. In verse 173 of chapter 7 of the Holy Qur'an, Allah has explained that the love, attraction, and longing for God has been ingrained in human souls even before our creation. As such, it is only natural that the remembrance of their Lord brings comfort and peace to human beings.

In this regard, Allah has warned that if a person purposefully turns away from Him and neglects one's duty towards one's soul, it will result in great discomfort. Allah the Almighty states in the Holy Qur'an:

وَمَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَن ذِكْرِي فَإِنَّ لَهُ مَعِيشَةً ضَنْكًا

“But whosoever will turn away from My Reminder, his will be a challenging life.” (20:125)

## Hope Keeps Us Going

Whether it has to do with mental health challenges or any other heavy burden or difficulty in life, hope can do wonders because it enables us to see light, despite all the darkness. It is particularly essential for anyone already feeling down because the feeling of hopelessness further encourages a person to pull away from life, avoid things he or she usually enjoys, or being in the company of loved ones.

Allah has instilled a great message of hope in the Holy Qur'an. To those who may regret something they have done, or who continue to dwell on the past, Allah gives the following message:

قُلْ يُعْبَادِي الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا

“Say, ‘O My servants who have committed excesses against their own souls! despair not of the mercy of Allah, surely Allah forgives all sins.’” (39:54)

Allah tells us that whatever has happened in the past or whatever mistakes you may have committed, can be fixed, or reparations can be made in the present. Dwelling on the past without taking any action to rectify the wrong will not bring about any good.

Similarly, a narration from the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> teaches us that one ought to have a good, uplifting attitude at all times, especially towards our Creator. The narration goes as follows:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ ” إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَقُولُ أَنَا عَبْدٌ ظَنَّ عَبْدِي بِي وَأَنَا مَعَهُ إِذَا دَعَانِي“

Hazrat Abu Hurairah<sup>ra</sup> narrated that the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said: “Indeed, Allah says: ‘I am as My slave thinks of Me, and I am with him when He calls upon Me.’”<sup>2</sup>

### Purpose and Meaning in Life

Kristen Fuller, M.D., is a successful clinical writer in the mental health realm and an author. In one of her articles on the website ‘Psychology Today’, she writes:

“Regardless of what brings you meaning and purpose, it is essential to have a sense of purpose. Research shows that individuals who have a strong sense of purpose and meaning in life tend to have better mental health, overall well-being, and cognitive functioning compared to those who lack a sense of purpose.”<sup>3</sup>

Islam seeks to free humanity from the shackles of this world through submission to God Almighty. It teaches us that our salvation and deliverance lie in accepting Allah as our Creator and submitting ourselves to His commandments. While human beings are allowed to enjoy and entertain themselves within God’s limits and achieve their worldly aims and goals, the pursuit of God takes precedence over all. It provides a singularity of purpose in life.

The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> has taught us that the pursuit of God should be our highest aim in life and that if we recognize this fact and work towards achieving it, it can satiate our thirst and feeling of purposelessness. He writes:

“Our paradise lies in our God. Our highest delight is in our God for we have seen Him and have found every beauty in Him. This wealth is worth procuring though one might have to lay down one’s life to procure it. This ruby is worth purchasing though one may have to lose oneself to acquire it. O ye, who are bereft! Run to this fountain and it will satisfy you. It is the fountain of life that will save you.”<sup>4</sup>

### Ease after Hardship

For any individual struggling with depression or feeling down, another uplifting message contained in the Holy Qur’an is a universal truth that life is filled with periods of hardship and ease. With every hardship, Allah has promised ease. As the saying goes, the light at the end of the tunnel is not an illusion—the tunnel is.

In the Holy Qur’an, Allah states:

فَإِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا ○ إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا

“Surely, there is ease after hardship. Most surely there is continuation of ease after hardship.” (94:6-7)

Thus, the Holy Qur’an teaches us to fight through hardships and periods of affliction with courage and bravery, and to not lose hope. Even if a person fails, as Muslims, we accept it as Divine decree. In such cases, the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> has taught us that if we patiently persevere through afflictions and hardship and not lose hope in Allah, it becomes a source of reward for us in the Hereafter or the eternal life. He stated:

عَنْ أَبِي سَعِيدٍ وَأَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ أَنَّهُمَا سَمِعَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ يَقُولُ ” مَا يُصِيبُ الْمُؤْمِنَ مِنْ وَصَبٍ وَلَا نَصَبٍ وَلَا سَقَمٍ وَلَا حَزَنٍ حَتَّىٰ الْهَمُّ بِهِمْهُ إِلَّا كُفِّرَ بِهِ مِنْ سَيِّئَاتِهِ“.

Hazrat Abu Hurairah<sup>ra</sup> reported that we heard Allah’s Messenger<sup>sa</sup> saying: “A believer is never stricken with discomfort, hardship, illness, grief, or even mental worry, except that his sins are expiated for him.”<sup>5</sup>

Even though we do not know whether we will ultimately succeed in resolving our problems, the Islamic guidelines are that while placing absolute trust in Allah, each day and step of a believer should be better than the preceding. Allah states in the Holy Qur’an:

وَلَا خَيْرَ لَكَ مِنَ الْأُولَىٰ

“Surely, every succeeding hour is better for thee than the preceding one.” (93:5)

### Do Not Isolate Yourself

Many studies have demonstrated that social isolation is closely related to issues of mental health. This means that people who pull themselves away from friends and family, activities they enjoy and community gatherings they would otherwise attend, are more likely to face such challenges. Whether a person believes that mental health issues lead to social isolation or social isolation leads to mental health challenges, the reality is that they are closely related to each other.

The government of the province of Alberta has given the following information on their website regarding effects of social isolation on one’s mental health:

“Social isolation and loneliness can affect your physical, mental, and emotional well-being. They can lead to health problems like heart disease, mental health concerns such as depression and dementia, and early death.”<sup>6</sup>

Islam, being the most communal religion, can help with the problem of social isolation. There are many commandments and teachings in the religion of Islam that pushes people to interact with others.

Salat is one of the most important components of Islam. Muslims are encouraged to gather in mosques or prayer centers to offer Salat in congregation. The weekly Friday prayers bring people together from a much larger area. Finally, twice a year, Muslims of the entire city unite for Eid prayers. Pilgrimage to Mecca goes even further as it enables Muslims from all parts of the world to interact with each other. In this way, Islam provides ample opportunity for a Muslim to socialize with others, to find people of a similar nature and disposition, and to leave behind social isolation.

There are also many other Islamic teachings and practices that can help a person struggling with social isolation. Some of them include fulfilling the rights of elderly parents, visiting individuals who are sick, and feeding the poor.

Regarding social isolation, we also find the following guidelines of the Holy Prophet Muhammad<sup>sa</sup> which he left for his *Ummah*:

عَنْ ابْنِ عُمَرَ أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ ﷺ نَهَى عَنِ الْوَحْدَةِ أَنْ يَبِيتَ الرَّجُلُ وَحْدَهُ أَوْ يُسَافِرَ وَحْدَهُ

Hazrat Ibn Umar<sup>ra</sup> reported that the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, prohibited isolation, that a man spends the night alone or travels alone.<sup>7</sup>

## Relief from Grief

In his book *Seeratul Mahdi*, Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad<sup>ra</sup> has collected different narrations about the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. In one such narration, he stated, “Hazrat Mian Abdullah Sanori<sup>ra</sup> related to me that the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> often used to say: ‘When God is yours, what grief can you have?’”<sup>8</sup>

Similarly, it is recorded in *Malfuzat* that the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> once said:

“No difficulty or affliction can persist if a person demonstrates steadfastness and patience while placing trust and faith in Allah. When God is yours, what grief can you have?”<sup>9</sup>

Thus, from an Islamic perspective, a person should always have strong belief in Allah, accompanied with His remembrance and worship. In times of trials and difficulties, one should not give up hope. In fact, Islam teaches us to use all our God-given faculties to resolve problems, while placing our trust in Allah for the best possible outcome. Even if the results are not as we had desired, we embrace it as Divine decree.

Lastly, as Muslims, we must always remember that this life is temporary, and that ultimate justice and reward is due in the Hereafter. The Holy Qur’an teaches us this beautiful prayer:

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

“Lord, grant us the best in this world as well as the best in the world to come and safeguard us against the torment of the Fire.” (2:202)

## Endnotes

1. Care for Addiction and Mental Health, ‘The Crisis Is Real’
2. *Sahib Muslim*, Book of the virtue of remembrance and supplication
3. Fuller, Kristen. “How Creating a Sense of Purpose Can Impact Your Mental Health”, Psychology Today, March 07, 2022
4. *The Essence of Islam*, vol. 1, p. 38
5. *Sahib Muslim*, Book of Virtue and Good Manners
6. Addiction and Mental Health, Alberta Health Services, Mental Health and Wellness, January 06, 2022
7. *Musnad Ahmad*, no. 5650
8. *Seeratul Mahdi*, vol. 1, p. 168, narration 174.
9. *Malfuzat*, vol. 5, p. 274, 1984 ed.

# Charitable Contributions of Ahmadi Muslims of Mississauga

Mirza Naseem Baig

Secretary Umur-e-Kharijiyya, Mississauga Jama'at

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at has been at the forefront of delivering humanitarian aid in Canada and around the globe, be it for disaster relief, floods, earthquakes, a pandemic, or food banks for the needy. The Mississauga Jama'at has demonstrated zealous support to the Mayor of Mississauga's Food Drive since 2014. Furthermore, the Jama'at has helped by raising funds for the Food Bank each year.

In 2016, the Mayor of Mississauga, Her Worship Bonnie Crombie, had the opportunity to meet Huzoor-e-Anwar (may Allah be his Helper!) while he was visiting Canada. In the 45-minute meeting, Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> inquired about the affairs in Canada. The mayor expressed her gratitude for the funds and food provisions donated by the Jama'at, to which Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> replied that both the sustenance and monetary relief will be doubled by the following year. Since then, Mississauga Jama'at continues to provide approximately 20,000–25,000 pounds of food and \$10,000 to the Mississauga Food Bank per annum. It is also worth mentioning that the Mississauga Jama'at has received the top donations award from the mayor for the past three consecutive years.

In 2022, the Jama'at maintained its charitable efforts by presenting 25,000 pounds of food and a \$10,000 donation to the Mississauga Food Bank; this has been made possible due to the unyielding generosity of the Ahmadis of the Mississauga Jama'at.



Members of the Mississauga Jama'at's PR Team with the Mayor of Mississauga

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ  
تَنْ وَالْقَلَمِ وَمَا يَسْطُرُونَ ﴿٢﴾  
ن۔ تم ہے قلم کی اور اس کی جو وہ لکھتے ہیں۔ (68:2)

## مقابلہ مضمون نویسی عنوان

پہلا انعام 300 ڈالرز  
دوسرا انعام 200 ڈالرز  
تیسرا انعام 100 ڈالرز

دسویں شرط بیعت سلسلہ عالیہ احمدیہ، حضرت مرزا غلام احمد قادیانی، مسیح موعود و مہدی معہود

یہ کہ اس عاجز سے عقد اخوت محض اللہ باقرار اطاعت در معروف باندھ کر اس پر تا وقت مرگ قائم رہے گا اور اس عقد اخوت میں ایسا اعلیٰ درجہ کا ہو گا کہ اس کی نظیر دنیوی رشتوں اور تعلقوں اور تمام خادمانہ حالتوں میں پائی نہ جاتی ہو۔



جو شخص مشق کر کے زبان اور قلم سے دین کی خدمت میں کام لے گا۔ وہ فتح کو قریب لائے گا۔ (خطبات محمود، جلد 8، صفحہ 291-299)

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ  
تَنْ وَالْقَلَمِ وَمَا يَسْطُرُونَ ﴿٢﴾

By the inkstand and by the pen and by that which they write (68:2)

# Essay Writing Competition

## Topic:

Accomplishments during the blessed two decades of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>

1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$300  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$200  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$100

For more details, contact your Za'im Majlis

Deadline  
31-August-2023



The one who will utilize their speaking and writing abilities to serve the religion would bring the victory [of Islam] nearer. (Khutbat-e-Mahmud, vol. 8, pp. 299)

Ta'lim Department  
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# FROM COAST TO COAST

Reports from Jama'ats Across Canada  
(February - March 2023)

FEBRUARY 2023

## Jalsa Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> held in Maryam Mosque, Barrie

*Ahmad Saeed Virk, Secretary Isha'at, Barrie North Jama'at*

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'ats of Barrie, Ontario had the honour of holding Jalsa Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> at the Maryam Mosque in Oro-Medonte on February 26, 2023.

In recent years, the Ahmadi population in Barrie has been steadily on the rise. Before COVID-19 struck, the Jama'at in Barrie was relatively small, and the mosque compound was more than enough to serve all of Jama'at's needs for events and gatherings. However, since then, with an influx of people migrating northwards from the GTA, the general population of Barrie and surrounding townships has greatly increased. The same trend is visible in the Barrie Jama'at *tajnid*, especially through the formation of Barrie North and South Jama'ats.

Hence, this year's Jalsa Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> presented additional challenges for organizers as they had to arrange the logistics of hosting a larger number of attendees. By the grace of Allah, despite all the challenges in arrangements, the Jalsa was a success as more than 300 Jama'at members attended, to nourish their spirituality with faith-inspiring speeches.

The event commenced after Zuhr & Asr prayers with recitation from the Holy Qur'an with its English & Urdu translations, followed by an Urdu poem regarding Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup>, with its English translation. An MTA documentary about the prophecy was then played on the mosque's projectors.

This was followed by speeches presented by the local missionary,



Jalsa Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> at Maryam Mosque, Barrie

Murabbi Bilal Bhatti and several members of Atfalul Ahmadiyya. These presentations included details on the life of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup>, his services to humanity, knowledge of the Qur'an, the magnificent achievements during his Khilafat in the form of establishing foreign missions, organizational structure, auxiliaries, and financial schemes.

A Kahoot quiz was also part of the program, which actively involved the attendees by enabling them to answer multiple choice questions regarding Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> using their mobile phone devices. Afterwards, prizes were awarded.

The keynote address was delivered by Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, who emphasized the need and importance of Khilafat in general, and stressed that the celebration of Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> Day was in commemoration of the fulfillment of a grand prophecy, rather than the birthday of an individual.

The program concluded with silent prayers, followed by Maghrib & Isha prayers. Dinner was served at the end. Jama'at members were very happy with the event.



MARCH 2023

## The 13<sup>th</sup> World Religions Conference Held in Whitehorse

*Rizwan Peerzada, Regional President BC*

On March 1, 2023, the 13<sup>th</sup> World Religions Conference, Whitehorse, was held in person after two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Whitehorse is the capital of the Yukon territory, with a population of 30,820 according to the 2022 census.

### About Yukon

Yukon is a unique place in the world, situated in the north of British Columbia, east of Alaska. Although its population is considerably small in comparison with its land size, the territory itself is very beautiful. It is a popular tourist attraction in the winter and summer months due to its breathtaking valleys and the Rocky Mountains. The land Yukon is rich in minerals, gas, and oil. For the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at, the attraction in this beautiful part of Canada is to convey the message of Islam Ahmadiyyat to the corners of the world; to spread the name of Allah the Almighty and to glorify His majesty in the valleys of Yukon.

By the grace of Allah, the Jama'at held three events in two days: a meeting with indigenous peoples, an Explore Islam Event at a library, and the world religions conference.



World Religions Conference, Yukon

### History of the Event

The first World Religions Conference in Yukon took place on Thursday, September 6, 2007, at 6:30 pm, at the Yukon Arts Centre, located next to Yukon College. Her Worship Bev Buckway, mayor of Whitehorse, moderated the conference which was on the theme of "Why I Believe in My Faith". Aside from the Islamic perspective, aboriginal, Buddhist, Jewish, and Christian perspectives were also presented. Maulana Naseem Mahdi (of blessed memory), presented the Islam Ahmadiyya viewpoint, and Respected Lal Khan Malik, Amir Jama'at Canada, presented introductory remarks.

### Campaign Efforts

The BC Jama'at rendered noteworthy services in promoting this year's conference. Advertisements were run on Facebook, radio channels, and newspapers. Across the city, 60 posters were posted, and flyers



Murabbi Shakoor Ahmad (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Regional President of BC (3<sup>rd</sup> from left), volunteers & indigenous elders

were distributed with help of local churches, especially the United and Anglican Churches of Whitehorse. Whitehorse Tourism and the Chamber of Commerce were contacted via telephone and invited to be part of the conference. A CBC Radio interview was also broadcasted on March 1. *Al-hamdu lillah!*

Members of the Jama'at who travelled to volunteer in this conference were Fahim Channa, Sadr Abbotsford; Anwar Husain Shah; Abdul Basit; and Mubarak Chaudhary. May Allah reward them abundantly, Amen! They all delivered flyers door-to-door.

### Conference

The theme of this year's conference was "The Question of Timeless Suffering" and the event moderator was Mr. Larry Bagnell, ex-member of Parliament. Representatives for faiths included David Jensen (Baha'i), the Right Reverend Beverly Brazier (Christianity), Murabbi Shakoor Ahmad (Islam), Rick Buchan (Buddhism), Rick Karp (Judaism), Navdeep Kaur (Sikhism), and Phillip Gatensby (indigenous faith).

Dignitaries in attendance included deputy mayor, Councillor Ted Laking, who brought greetings and welcomed guests. The Honourable Angélique Bernard, Commissioner of Yukon, appreciated the contributions of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at Canada for hosting a unique conference in Whitehorse, bringing faiths together in one platform. The total attendance of the conference was 105.

Concluding remarks were given by the moderator, followed by a vote of thanks by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at's Regional President of British Columbia, Rizwan Peerzada.

## Interfaith Symposium Hosted by AMSA Regina

*Nauman Ahmad, Secretary Tabligh, Regina*

On Thursday, March 2, 2023, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Students' Association (AMSA) of Regina held its first interfaith symposium at the University of Regina on "Religion and the Modern World". The event was attended by 90 people, including 45 guests.



Interfaith Symposium at the University of Regina



Interfaith Symposium at the University of Regina

The Islamic perspective was presented by Maulana Khalil Ahmad Tanvir, missionary of Regina. The Christian, Sikh, and Buddhist faiths were also represented at the event. After the presentations, a question-and-answer session was conducted.

This successful event was organized by 12 members of the Jama'at, mostly from the youth. Refreshments were served to all attendees at the conclusion of the symposium.

## Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> Day Held in Brampton

*Fakhar Chughtai, Secretary Isba'at, Brampton West*

By the grace of Allah the Almighty, the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> (Masih-e-Mau'ud) Day Jalsa of Brampton West Jama'at was held on Saturday, March 18, 2023.

The program commenced after Asr prayer, at 5:45 pm. Respected Farhan Khokhar, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, presided over the event. The event started with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an, followed by its Urdu and English translations. A poem from *Durr-e-Sameen*, with its English translation was also presented. The local Amir of Brampton West Jama'at, Abdul Jabbar Zafar, provided a brief introduction to Jalsa Masih-e-Mau'ud<sup>as</sup> Day, highlighting its purpose and importance.

The first speech, delivered in English by Murabbi Umair Khan, was on the topic of "Renaissance of Islam through the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>." In his speech, he emphasized the signs and proofs of the coming of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> through the Holy Qur'an and Hadith. He also mentioned a few excerpts from the writings of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> to enlighten the topic.

A small video presentation on "Qadian Darul Amaan" was shown after this speech.

Then, Mansoor Nasir, Ta'lim Secretary of Brampton West Jama'at, delivered an Urdu speech on "Signs of the Truth of Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>". In his speech, he provided Qur'anic references in support of the truth of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, mentioned some prophecies,



Murabbi Umair Khan addressing Jalsa Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> Day, Brampton

and explained the steadfastness of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. The English translation of the speech was displayed on TV screens for the benefit of English-speaking members.

A Kahoot quiz was held after this presentation, to involve more members, especially the youth, Kahoot web application was used for this quiz. *Al-hamdu lillah*, 135 members participated in this quiz.

Respected Farhan Khokhar, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada, then delivered the Jalsa's closing remarks. In his remarks, he went through different events of the lifetime of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> and highlighted the achievements of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> and the Jama'at.

At the end of the program, prizes were distributed for the quiz competition and Jalsa attendance. This blessed event was attended by around 800 members. The program concluded with a silent prayer led by Murabbi Umair Khan. Food was provided at the end of the program.

Overall, the Jalsa Masih-e-Mau'ud<sup>as</sup> Day held by Brampton West Jama'at was a very successful event, which provided a means for members to gain knowledge and insights on the life and teachings of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. The event was well-attended, and participants expressed their appreciation for the informative and engaging speeches and presentations.



Jalsa Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> Day, Brampton

## Explore Islam Events by Newmarket Jama'at

*Arif Faheem Khan, Secretary Isha'at, Newmarket*

As part of the nationwide Explore Islam campaign, Ansar, Khuddam and Atfal of Newmarket Jama'at visited Keswick to spread the message of peace, love, and unity, on March 19, 2023. More than 500 flyers were distributed. At the end, lunch was served and brothers socialized with one another. Waqar-e-Amal was also done at the local Salat centre.

On March 30, 2023, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya of Newmarket and the Northern Ontario region organized the Explore Islam Exhibition at York Regional Police Headquarters, Aurora. The event was attended by more than 70 officers of the York Regional Police (YRP), including their deputies and superintendents.



Explore Islam Exhibition at YRP Headquarters, Aurora

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at was introduced, and information about the Explore Islam campaign, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, and Ramadan was provided to guests. Attendees had the opportunity to learn about the Islamic faith, its traditions, and its culture. The event was well received and the YRP appreciated the efforts of Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Newmarket.

## Ramadan Celebration Event in Innisfil

*Sheikh Irfan Mahmud, General Secretary, Innisfil Jama'at*

On March 20, 2023, Innisfil Jama'at had the blessed opportunity to conduct a program at the Town Hall in Innisfil, with the full coordination and support of the town. The program served as an avenue to introduce the Jama'at to guests, as well as teach the significance of the holy month of Ramadan.

Innisfil Jama'at is a newly established Jama'at, experiencing a large influx of Jama'at members moving into town from all areas of Canada. This was a community event and the purpose was to introduce the true spirit of fasting and an insight into the Ahmadiyya Jama'at.

Invitations were sent to the local member of Parliament, member of Provincial Parliament, mayor of the town, councillors, and other administration officials. Religious leaders of different faiths were also invited. To promote the event and to invite the residents of the town,

flyers were distributed in the neighbourhood and library. Visits were made to invite the public school staff. The event was also promoted on social media.

The program commenced with a beautiful recitation of the Holy Qur'an by the local missionary, Murabbi Khalid Ahmad Minhas. The host of the event was Salman Mangla (Na'ib Sadr, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya Canada). There were many presentations and remarks by honoured guests.

The highlight and keynote presentation was given by Respected Lal Khan Malik, Amir Jama'at Canada. He welcomed the guests in his opening remarks and highlighted the spiritual and physical benefits of fasting.

Presentations were also made by other members, who further explained Ramadan and the history of Islam. Mirza Waqas Ahmad, serving as Tarbiyyat Secretary of Innisfil, and Adam Abid-Alexander, serving as local missionary, Vaughan, also gave insightful presentations.

In her remarks, Her Worship, Lynn Dollin, the mayor of Innisfil, expressed her gratitude to see all of the guests at the event. She also announced that March 20 would become the annual date to recognize Islamophobia and to help tackle it. In this regard, the town would observe flying the flags at half-mast on this date every year, *Al-hamdu lillab!*

The event received significant coverage in the press and media. The event was promoted on the website of the Town of Innisfil, its Twitter handle, and also covered and aired by CTV Barrie. A book stall was also set up at the event, as books and pamphlets were presented to the attendees.

A total of more than 150 members attended, with around 80 guests, including representatives of federal and provincial government, the mayor and councillors of the Town of Innisfil, representatives of the armed forces, fire and police departments, school teachers, and the Royal Canadian Legion. Representatives of churches and local residents were also present at the event.

At the end of the event, dinner was served and all the guests had the opportunity to have an informal introduction and to know more about each other's faith and culture.



Amir Sahib addressing the Ramadan Celebration at Town Hall, Innisfil

# In Memory of Hazel McCallion

Amatus Saboor Ahmad, Mississauga South Tabligh Team

**H**azel McCallion was a Canadian politician who served as the fifth mayor of Mississauga. She was born on February 14, 1921, in Port Daniel, a small village on Quebec's Gaspé Peninsula. When Hazel was 16 years old, she moved from Port Daniel to Montreal to complete her high school education and soon after she got a job at the Louis Rolland Paper Company in 1940. Thereafter, McCallion was employed by Canadian Kellogg Engineering as an office manager, and when the business relocated its headquarters to Toronto in 1943, she moved there with it. McCallion was a hard-working and a competent employee. She received several promotions during her employment at Kellogg, and frequently travelled to the main office in New York to speak for the Canadian branch and to conduct negotiations. During the Second World War, McCallion's attempt to enlist in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service was denied because she was seen as a crucial asset to the organization.

It was her business experience that prepared her for a career in politics and to work effectively in a male-dominated city council. Hazel's political career began in 1964 when she campaigned for the position of deputy reeve in Streetsville. While she was unsuccessful initially, she claimed the title in the 1967 elections and continued to serve the office until 1976. After which she became the Mayor of Mississauga in 1978 and quickly became known as the "Hurricane Hazel" of Canadian politics. She had a reputation for efficiently getting things done and helped transform Mississauga from a sprawling, centerless community into a city with a dense downtown core, and robust arts institutions. The total population of the city grew to a total of 750,000 people. During her first term in office, McCallion was faced with the challenge of evacuating over 250,000 people from Mississauga and Oakville after a Canadian Pacific freight train carrying explosive and poisonous

chemicals derailed. McCallion made the decision to evacuate the Mississauga Hospital, and the process took more than four hours and required the use of over 60 ambulances to transfer patients.

As Mayor, McCallion also established the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) Mayors' Committee in 1992. She brought together the 30 GTA mayors, later adding the Chair of Metro Toronto and the four Regional Chairs to work cooperatively for the economic promotion of the GTA. McCallion was also the first mayor of a major municipality to submit the annual operating budget to residents for their input and scrutiny. She was committed to a pay-as-you-go philosophy, resulting in a debt-free city in 1978.

McCallion played a leading role in promoting women in politics. She was the first woman to hold significant positions, such as Mayor of Streetsville and Mayor of Mississauga. McCallion held Germany's highest individual honour: the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, for her role in bringing German companies to Canada. She received numerous awards, including the Paul Harris Fellowship by Rotary International, the Canadian Family Values Award from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and one of the top leadership awards from the International Economic Development Council. In 2005, McCallion was invested as a Dame in the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta, the Hereditary Order, and was honoured with an award from the Province of Ontario in recognition of her more than 30 years of service as a municipal elected official.



PHOTO: CITY OF MISSISSAUGA



Jama'at delegation paying respects at City Hall, Mississauga



Members of the Jama'at delegation to Hazel McCallion's funeral

## CANADA POST ISSUES AN “EID MUBARAK” STAMP

Canada Post issued a new stamp on April 3, 2023, to mark two of the most important religious holidays in Islam: Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. The commemorative stamp features a centuries-old, exquisite ceramic bowl that is in a collection held by the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM).

The nearly 700-year-old bowl has a special connection to the festival of Eid al-Fitr, which celebrates the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting from sunrise to sunset – one of Islam’s most distinctive practices. Above the bowl, the stamp includes the words Eid Mubarak, a traditional Arabic greeting that means “have a blessed Eid.”

The hand-painted bowl was crafted in 1329 in Iran and is made of stonepaste – a hard material invented by Middle Eastern potters from a mixture of ground quartz, glass and clay. The bowl was likely used to serve dates, soups and other foods each night, to break the fast. It is inscribed on the inside with a Persian poem that blesses the owner of the bowl.

(Source: [Canada Post](#))



Hazel McCallion in the company of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih IV<sup>th</sup>, 1992

Apart from her mayoral activities, Hazel McCallion had a deep love for hockey and played professionally in the 1930s. She played centre position for a sports team sponsored by Kik, a cola brand, and made \$5 a game—the equivalent of which is about \$65 (US) today. In the year 1987, the Women’s World Hockey Championship named its trophy the Hazel McCallion World Cup in her honour. Even in her 80s, Hazel always carried a hockey stick in the trunk of her car, in case she came across a game. Besides Hockey, Hazel McCallion also enjoyed fishing, hiking, and biking—she even biked five miles to work at one point to promote sustainable and eco-friendly alternatives to driving. Furthermore, Hazel provided leadership as a district commissioner with the Girl Guides of Canada in the 1960s; this organisation encouraged young girls and women to volunteer and enjoy camping, travel, educational activities & community service.

Overall, McCallion was a trailblazing public servant who helped transform Mississauga from a small town into a thriving metropolis. She was known for her quick and effective response to emergencies, her commitment to financial responsibility, and her advocacy for women in politics. Her legacy lives on in Mississauga and beyond.

On January 29, 2023, at the age of 101 Hazel McCallion, the longest-serving mayor in the history of Mississauga, passed away. She was a formidable figure in Canadian politics and had served as the mayor of Mississauga for an incredible 36 years. She was known for her strong leadership, unwavering determination, and commitment to serving her community. During her time as mayor, McCallion oversaw the transformation of Mississauga from a small suburb into a thriving and dynamic city. She was deeply respected by both her colleagues and constituents and will be remembered as a true champion of public service. Her legacy will continue to inspire future generations of leaders and will forever be ingrained in the history of Mississauga and Canada as a whole. She was an inspiration to many, and her legacy will continue to live on through the countless lives she touched during her time in office. Her passing was a great loss to the community, and she will be deeply missed by all those who knew and loved her.

A state funeral was held for Hazel McCallion on February 14, 2023, which would have been her 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday. Hundreds of residents and dignitaries, including Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, came from across the country to pay their respects.



# JAMIA AHMADIYYA CANADA

## Extracurricular Activity Report

### FEBRUARY - MARCH 2023

Hisham Malik, student of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada (Thaniyah)

#### Respected Nasim Malik Visits Jamia

By the grace of Allah, on February 15, 2023, Respected Nasim Malik visited Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada and delivered a lecture to students. Nasim Malik is a politician based in Sweden and a human rights activist working in the International Human Rights Committee (IHRC), an NGO which was founded upon the advice of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup> in 2019.

The formal program began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Hafiz Talha Bajwa (Thaniyah) and silent prayer. After a brief introduction by Syed Hashir Hoodh Ahmad (Khamisah), Respected Nasim Malik addressed the students regarding the increasing persecution of Ahmadi Muslims in Pakistan. Some youth do not realize the extent of the persecution. He played a video highlighting the persecution of Ahmadis, which featured clips of religious leaders in Pakistan inciting violence against Ahmadis and human rights activists voicing their concerns about the situation in Pakistan. This video was prepared with the guidance and advice of Huzoor<sup>aa</sup>. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> saw a need for IHRC because of the escalation in violence in Pakistan. It is worthy to note that IHRC is independent from the Jama'at and works to improve human rights for all people.

One of the IHRC's tasks was to document the persecution in Pakistan, as this was not being done before. For this purpose, fact-finding reports were created. Respected Nasim Malik spoke about how the Pakistani persecution is unique in history because the roots of the persecution are embedded in the law and penal code and purely on a religious basis. The fear of persecution for Ahmadis is constant in Pakistan. They are all being wronged due to the unjust laws which deem them criminals for simply claiming to be Muslims. He detailed the history of how the law progressed from deeming Ahmadis non-Muslims to the point where even saying *Assalamu Alaikum* ("peace be upon you") has become a crime punishable by death for an Ahmadi. Celebrating Eid is not possible for Ahmadis in Pakistan. In all governmental paperwork, they must declare themselves to be non-Muslims. Similarly, Pakistani youth are indoctrinated through their textbooks and the media to say that Ahmadis are not Muslims.

Respected Nasim Malik then related some recent incidents demonstrating the hate for Ahmadis in Pakistan. Nearly five thousand Ahmadis are refugees in Southeast Asia. He played more video clips showcasing the prejudice and malice against Ahmadis from Pakistani leaders and an audio clip of the president of Afghanistan Jama'at, where Ahmadis are also facing severe oppression. In the end, he urged the students to build relationships with politicians and spend time working on the solutions to the problems which Ahmadis in these countries face. A few students had the opportunity to ask questions before the program concluded with a silent prayer and a group photo.

#### Commemoration of the Prophecy of Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup>

By the grace of Allah, Jamia held a program to commemorate the prophecy regarding Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> on February 20, 2023. The program began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Atta ul Hai (Khamisah) and an Urdu poem by Fezaan Haq (Mumahhidah).

The first speaker, Ghayoor Ahmad (Khamisah), elaborated how Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> was a messianic soul who healed the people, as was prophesied. He healed spiritual and physical illnesses, faced opposition from within his community, and migrated to Rabwah just as Jesus, son of Mary, migrated to Kashmir. Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> held fast to the truth and became victorious over his enemies with the help of God Almighty. After this, an audio clip of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> from one of his Jalsa Salana addresses was played.

The next speech, by Arslan Arif (Khamisah), focused on the true fulfillment of the prophecy in the person of Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad<sup>ra</sup>. From his youth, he wept in his prayers, earnestly desirous for the victory of Islam. His life was dedicated to Islam and his life's achievements conform to the prophecies made before his birth. Following this speech, Merghoob Siddiqui (Rabi'ah) recited an Urdu poem.

The Vice Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, Dr. Bashir Ahmad Khan, then spoke to the audience regarding Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih

II<sup>ra</sup> as a polymath. He detailed how Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud's<sup>ra</sup> life and achievements covered a great span of the twentieth century. His knowledge extended into many fields, including politics, economics, history, religion and philosophy. Academics acknowledged his wisdom and far-reaching insight. Many of his observations of the world came true in a prophetic manner. For example, he explained the downfalls of communism in *The Economic System of Islam* and emphasized the need for Muslim identity long before the creation of Pakistan. His works are a great fountainhead of knowledge, and an aspiring scholar should recognize him to be one of the great polymaths of history.

In the end, respected Principal Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, Maulana Daud Ahmed Hanif, led the silent prayers. May Allah enable us to continue the mission of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> and Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup>, and to benefit from the fountains of knowledge he has left us.

### Prepared Urdu Speech Competition

The annual prepared Urdu speech competition on Friday, February 24, 2023. The program began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Wajeehullah Khan (Ula).

Three esteemed judges were invited to judge the competition: Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada; Respected Shahid Mansoor, National Secretary Tarbiyat; and Respected Hameed Warraich, Sadr Majlis Ansarullah Canada.

After a tough competition, the judges deliberated to pick the winners. However, before the winners were announced, Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary corrected mistakes made by the speakers, advised the students on how to deliver a good speech, and offered valuable guidance on availing this time as Jamia students.

The following were the selected winners for the competition:

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: Nouman Ahmad (Thaniyah) from Shuja'at
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Ehtesham Ahmad (Thaniyah) from Diyanat
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Attaul Karim Gohar (Ula) from Shuja'at

At the end of the competition, Maulana Hadi Ali Chaudhary led all the students and attendees in a silent prayer. May Allah bless all the participants for taking part in this competition. Amen!

### Respected Maulana Mir Anjum Pervez Visits Jamia

On March 2, 2023, Maulana Mir Anjum Pervez visited Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada and delivered a lecture in Arabic to students. Maulana Mir Anjum Pervez has been serving at the Arabic Desk, UK since 2015.

In his lecture, he quoted the famous saying of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> that deeds are judged by motives and explained that one's motives are key in determining their character. In the same way, setting big goals is very important. In particular, we should learn from the faith-inspiring example of Hazrat Khalifatul-Masih V<sup>aa</sup>, particularly his services in Ghana, which shows his steadfastness and close relationship with Allah. Huzoor<sup>aa</sup> is our living example and we must strive to the best of our abilities to follow in his footsteps. It takes great effort to better oneself, so we must learn from his example.

He also advised students to read books on every subject to the point where there is no meeting in which a point or topic is presented of which they have no knowledge. At the end, students asked him some questions and the session concluded with a silent prayer. May Allah give us the ability to adhere to this advice and achieve the high standards set by our beloved Khulafa, Amen!

### Prepared English Speech Competition

The annual prepared English speech competition was held on Friday, March 3, 2023. The program began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Fezaan Haq (Mumahhidah).

The three esteemed judges for the competition were: Respected Dr. Bashir Ahmad Khan, Respected Sheikh Abdul Wadood, National Isha'at Secretary, and Maulana Sohail Mubarak Sharma, Na'ib Amir Jama'at Canada.

After a very close competition, the judges deliberated to pick the winners. While the judges discussed the results, Muran Khattab (Mumahhidah) presented a short recitation of Qaseedah. Before announcing the final results, Maulana Sohail Mubarak Sharma gave remarks on delivering and judging speeches. The following winners of the competition were:

- 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE: Faraan Muhammad (Muhamahhidah) from Shuja'at
- 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE: Tahir Mian (Khamisah) from Amanat
- 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE: Attaul Karim Gohar (Ula) from Shuja'at

### Official Delegation from *The Review of Religions*

On March 4, 2023, Respected Maulana Zafir Mahmood Malik and Maulana Shehzad Ahmad who are serving in *The Review of Religions*, UK, visited Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada and addressed the students. They were accompanied by Murabbi Farrukh Tahir, who is serving in *The Review of Religions*, in Canada.

First, Maulana Zafir Malik presented an introduction as to the origins of *The Review of Religions*, which is an English comparative religious magazine which was started by the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> in 1902, to spread Islam to the western hemisphere. The Jama'at was established in three countries, namely, Ghana, Mauritius and the Philippines, due to the effect of the magazine. Several prominent figures of the twentieth century read this magazine, including Leo Tolstoy. It was the Promised Messiah's<sup>as</sup> wish to have 10,000 copies of *The Review of Religions* published monthly, which became a reality in 1994.

Today, *The Review of Religions* also has German, French and Spanish editions. *The Review of Religions's* work has expanded into multimedia, including YouTube, Twitter, and Instagram channels. It also holds special exhibitions and other events, like the widely-viewed *The God Summit*. Furthermore, many books of Hazrat Musleh Mau'ud<sup>ra</sup> are being translated into English under *The Review of Religions*, including Tafsir-e-Kabir. *The Review of Religions* also works on preparing summaries and translations of Huzoor's<sup>aa</sup> Friday Sermons in English.

Maulana Shehzad Ahmad spoke about the humble beginnings of *The Review of Religions's* YouTube channel and how it gradually built a relationship with a historic church and its leaders. This led to a positive effect on its congregation, and enabled an interfaith dia-

logue to begin, which was covered by the local news. Shehzad Ahmad emphasized the need to keep making efforts, then Allah will bless those efforts. He also urged Jamia students to contribute to *The Review of Religions*.

In the end, students had an opportunity to give feedback about *The Review of Religions* and ask questions. The Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, Maulana Daud Ahmed Hanif, led a silent prayer at the conclusion of this session.

### Jalsa Masih-e-Mau'ud<sup>as</sup>

Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada held its annual Jalsa Masih-e-Mau'ud on March 23, 2023. The program began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Anas Mahmood (Thalithah) and a poem of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> was recited by Fezaan Haq (Mumahhidah).

The first speech was delivered by Arham Qureshi (Khamisah), in Urdu, on the "Incidents of the Acceptance of Prayer in the Life of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>". One of the incidents he related in his speech was regarding the miraculous increase in the quantity of food for the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>'s guests. Hazrat Amma Jaan<sup>ra</sup> narrated that she was once preparing *pulao* (a rice dish prepared in broth, also known as pilaf) for the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. It so happened that a few companions of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> and their families came to the house of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, so Huzoor<sup>as</sup> told Hazrat Amma Jaan<sup>ra</sup> to give the food to all the guests. Out of concern, Hazrat Amma Jaan<sup>ra</sup> told him that she had only prepared enough *pulao* for the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>. But the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> told her not to worry and prayed that Allah the Almighty may bless the dish. As it happened, God blessed the food and there was miraculously enough food for all the guests, including the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>, the family of Hazrat Maulana Nur-uddin<sup>ra</sup> and even others!

The next speech was delivered in English by Adnan Ahmad (Khamisah) on "The Prophecies for the Time of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>". Adnan quoted Ibn Kathir, who said that whoever wants to know the time of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> should look no further than Surah Takwir, chapter 81 of the Holy Qur'an. He then highlighted some major prophecies mentioned in the Holy Qur'an.

After Adnan's speech, Atta ul Hai (Khamisah) recited some couplets from the Urdu poetry of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>.

The Principal of Jamia Ahmadiyya Canada, Maulana Daud Ahmed Hanif, then delivered the concluding address for the program. He stated that the main reason for the advent of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> was that people's connection with God had been lost and the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> was commissioned to convey the message to the world that God is the same in this age as He always was. In relation to the start of the holy month of Ramadan, Principal Sahib also quoted some sayings of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> about fasting. The Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup> stated that many people are unaware of the true meaning and condition of fasting. Fasting does not only mean that one should remain hungry or thirsty, but as one lessens his physical food, his spiritual food increases and he is more inclined toward the purification of his soul. By eating less, one's faculty to receive revelations is also increased through fasting, and he is able to cut off from the materialistic world. At the end, Principal Sahib led the students and staff in silent prayer.



Jalsa Prophecy of Musleh Mau'ud<sup>as</sup>



Respected Mir Anjum Pervez & the Jamia faculty



English speech competition



The Review of Religions delegation & the Jamia faculty



Jamia students attending Jalsa Masih-e-Mau'ud<sup>as</sup>



کیا وہ لوگ جو علم رکھتے ہیں اور وہ جو علم نہیں رکھتے برابر ہو سکتے ہیں؟ یقیناً عقل والے ہی نصیحت پکڑتے ہیں۔ (الزمر آیت ۱۰)

# MAJLIS ANŞĀRULLĀH CANADA EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS 2023



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Department of Ta'lim

MAJLIS ANŞĀRULLĀH  
CANADA



قیادت تعلیم  
مجلس انصار اللہ، کینیڈا

# KIDS ZONE

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. The first ever Jalsa Salana took place in the year \_\_\_\_\_.
2. There were only \_\_\_\_\_ participants in the first Jalsa Salana.
3. Jalsa Salana Canada is usually held at \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The purpose of Jalsa is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. In terms of attendance, the largest Jalsa ever held was in \_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWERS  
1. 1891  
2. 75  
3. The International Centre  
4. To increase in faith and knowledge  
5. Rabwah, Pakistan

## TRIVIA

1. Name 3 countries in which the International Jalsa Salana has been held.
2. How old was the Holy Prophet<sup>as</sup> when he received the first revelation?
3. Can you state at least 3 miracles of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>?
4. What was the name of the American reverend who died after a prayer duel with the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>?
5. Can you recall any lesson you learned from last year's Jalsa Salana?

ANSWERS  
1. India, Pakistan, UK, and Germany  
2. 40  
3. Prophecy about Fundit Lekhram; cure of the boy bitten by rabid dog; prayer duel with Dowie  
4. John Alexander Dowie

**MEMORIZE THIS!**

رَبِّ أَرِنِي حَقَائِقَ الْأَشْيَاءِ  
"O my Lord, show me the reality of everything!"

(Prayer of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>)

## WORD SEARCH

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

### Word Bank

Righteousness  
Jalsa Salana  
Brotherhood  
Knowledge  
Community

Pakistan  
Messiah  
Khalifa  
England  
Qadian

India  
Piety  
Rabwah  
Canada  
Learn

### DID YOU KNOW?

The gatherings at Jalsa are a fulfillment of this revelation of the Promised Messiah<sup>as</sup>:

يَأْتُونَ مِنْ كُلِّ فَجٍّ عَمِيقٍ

"They will come to you by every distant track."

### Contribute to KIDS ZONE

Send us drawings, articles, fun facts, and feedback. We would love to hear from you!

Email us:

[editor@ahmadiyyagazette.ca](mailto:editor@ahmadiyyagazette.ca)

## جلسہ میں شامل ہونے والوں کے لیے حضرت مسیح موعود علیہ الصلوٰۃ والسلام کی دعا

”ہر ایک صاحب جو اس للہی جلسے کے لیے سفر اختیار کریں خدا تعالیٰ ان کے ساتھ ہو اور ان کو اجر عظیم بخشے اور ان پر رحم کرے اور ان کی مشکلات اور اضطراب کے حالات ان پر آسان کر دیوے اور ان کے ہم و غم دور فرمائے اور ان کو ہر ایک تکلیف سے مخلصی عنایت کرے اور ان کی مرادات کی راہیں ان پر کھول دیوے اور روزِ آخرت میں اپنے ان بندوں کے ساتھ ان کو اٹھائے جن پر اس کا فضل و رحم ہے۔“

(اشہار 7/ دسمبر 1892ء۔ مجموعہ اشہارات، جلد اول، صفحہ 342)

### مشکل الفاظ

عنایت کرے: دے، عطا کرے  
مرادات: خواہشیں  
روزِ آخرت: آخرت کا دن  
راہیں: راستے

اضطراب: بے چینی، بے قراری  
کر دیوے: کر دے  
ہم و غم: پریشانی اور فکر  
مخلصی: نجات، رہائی

ہر ایک: ہر ایک  
للہی: اللہ تعالیٰ کے لیے  
اجر عظیم: بہت بڑا انعام  
بخشنے: دے، عطا کرے

ق	و	ع	ر	ت	ے	ی	پ
ا	م	ل	ھ	ٹ	ل	م	ہ
د	ث	ب	گ	ٹ	ک	ن	ا
ی	چ	ن	ف	خ	ج	ب	س
ا	ث	ل	د	ض	ھ	ط	د
ن	ش	ج	س	غ	گ	ک	ف
ی	ب	ر	ط	ا	ن	ی	ہ
ر	ر	م	و	ن	چ	ن	ا
و	ا	ن	ع	ا	ث	ی	م
ش	ز	ی	ر	ح	ظ	ڈ	ر
م	م	ت	گ	غ	ث	ا	ی
د	ی	گ	س	ڈ	ز	ذ	ک
ل	ف	ر	ا	ن	س	ص	ہ

### الفاظ تلاش کریں

ان مقامات کے نام تلاش کریں جن میں حضور انور  
ایده اللہ تعالیٰ جلسہ سالانہ میں شامل ہو چکے ہیں:  
قادیان، برطانیہ، جرمنی،  
غانا، کینیڈا، امریکہ، فرانس

### کوئز

1. جلسہ سالانہ کی بنیاد کس نے رکھی؟
2. جلسہ سالانہ کا مقصد کیا ہے؟
3. پہلا باقاعدہ جلسہ سالانہ کب منعقد ہوا؟
4. والدین کے لئے سب سے اچھی دعا کون سی ہے؟
5. حضور انور ایده اللہ تعالیٰ نے دنیا کے جن ممالک کے  
جلسہ سالانہ میں شامل ہوئے ہیں ان میں سے کوئی  
سے 5 ممالک کے نام لکھیں۔

# بچوں کا صفحہ

## اللہ میان کا خط

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ  
وَكَوْنُوا مَعَ الصَّادِقِينَ ﴿١١٩﴾

اے وہ لوگو جو ایمان لائے ہو!  
اللہ کا تقویٰ اختیار کرو اور سچوں کے ساتھ ہو جاؤ۔

(سُورَةُ التَّوْبَةِ، آيَةُ 119)

## پیارے رسول ﷺ کی پیاری باتیں

حضرت عبد اللہ بن عمر رضی اللہ عنہ بیان کرتے ہیں کہ  
رسول اللہ ﷺ نے فرمایا:

تم پر سچ بولنا فرض ہے کیوں کہ سچ نیکی کی طرف لے جاتا ہے اور  
نیکی جنت کی طرف لے جاتی ہے۔ (صحیح مسلم)

## پیارے بچو!

اس مہینہ میں جماعت احمدیہ کینیڈا کو جلسہ سالانہ منعقد کرنے کی توفیق مل رہی ہے۔ اس جلسہ سالانہ کے موقع پر بہت سے بچے حضرت اقدس مسیح موعود علیہ الصلوٰۃ والسلام کے مہمانوں کی خدمت بجالانے کے لئے مختلف شعبہ جات میں ڈیوٹیز دیتے ہیں۔

اس جلسہ کی بنیاد حضرت اقدس مسیح موعود علیہ الصلوٰۃ والسلام نے خدا تعالیٰ کی مرضی کے مطابق رکھی تھی۔ پہلا جلسہ سالانہ مسجد اقصیٰ قادیان میں منعقد ہوا تھا۔ اس جلسہ میں 75 احمدی احباب شامل ہوئے۔ یہ ایک روز پر مشتمل جلسہ تھا۔ باقاعدہ جلسہ سالانہ کا آغاز 1892ء میں ہوا اور اس کے بعد سے ہر سال جلسہ سالانہ کا انعقاد ہونا شروع ہو گیا اس جلسہ سالانہ نے خوب ترقی کی اور اب کئی ممالک میں جلسہ ہائے سالانہ منعقد ہوتے ہیں جن میں شاملین کی تعداد ہزاروں میں ہوتی ہے۔

اس جلسہ کا مقصد دینی، روحانی اور اخلاقی تربیت ہے۔ ان تین دنوں میں آپس میں مل بیٹھنے کا موقع ملتا ہے جس سے بھائی چارہ بڑھتا ہے اور علماء سلسلہ کی تقاریر اور جلسہ سالانہ کے دیگر پروگرام ہمارے دینی علم اور اخلاقی تربیت میں اضافہ کرتے ہیں۔ اللہ تعالیٰ کے فضل سے کچھ ممالک کے جلسہ سالانہ میں حضور انور ایدہ اللہ تعالیٰ بنصرہ العزیز بھی شامل ہوتے ہیں۔ ان جلسوں میں ایم ٹی اے کے ذریعہ تمام دنیا کے احمدی شامل ہو جاتے ہیں اور ان جلسوں کے شاملین کی تعداد ایم ٹی اے کے ذریعہ لاکھوں تک پہنچ جاتی ہے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ ہمیں اس جلسہ کی برکات سے فائدہ اٹھانے والا بنائے۔ آمین

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